

death  
er she  
iness

### Suspected militants kill two in Egypt

CAIRO (AP) — Suspected militants killed two people Sunday in a drive-by shooting in southern Egypt, police said. Gunmen in a light truck opened fire on a couple of pedestrians in the village of Tanta, Minya province, 220 kilometres south of Cairo, police said. Two villagers were killed instantly. Local residents told the Associated Press that the victims were suspected of being police informers. The gunmen escaped. More than 1,100 people, mostly policemen and militants, have been killed since Islamists began an insurrection in 1992 to replace the secular government with strict Islamist rule. A leading insurgent, now on trial for subversion, called in July for a ceasefire. But the government dismissed the call as insincere and it did not appear to be widely supported by the militants still at large.

# Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردان تايمز: صحيفة سياسية مستقلة منشورة من قبل مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية، الرأى



Volume 22 Number 6625

AMMAN TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1997, JUMADA I 1, 1418

Price: Jordan 200 fils

## Ritz security chief was drunk driving at 196 kph — officials

### Britons flood royal palaces, Harrods with bouquets of flowers, messages



Combined agency dispatches

THE DRIVER killed along with Princess Diana and Imad "Dudi" Fayed in a car crash in Paris on Sunday had more than three times the legal alcohol limit in his blood, Paris prosecutors said Monday.

Analysis of his blood indicated that he had 1.75 grammes of alcohol per litre of blood, compared with the legal limit of 0.5 grammes per litre, the prosecutor's office said.

A police official meanwhile, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that the car's speedometer was

frozen at 196 kilometres per hour and that according to witnesses the driver had been trying to skirt around a slower-moving vehicle.

The driver was killed instantly in the crash in the early hours of Sunday morning, along with Fayed. Diana died of her injuries several hours later. Diana's bodyguard is in hospital with serious injuries.

The daily Le Monde reported Monday that the driver was the head of security at the Ritz Hotel, where the couple had dined Saturday evening, and

(Continued on page 7)

## Princess Diana will be buried Saturday

LONDON (AFP) — Queen Elizabeth II finally decided Monday to permit a certain degree of royal pomp and ceremony for the funeral of Princess Diana, which is to be a state event but not a full state funeral.

Over 2,000 people will be invited to the 11 a.m. ceremony in Westminster Abbey on Saturday, Buckingham Palace said, and the event will be televised live.

Dozens of heads of state and government as well as monarchs are expected, although neither the palace nor Downing Street could yet say exactly who would be there.

The funeral is expected to be one of the biggest in the world since the death of the Belgian King Baudoin in August 1993, or more recently the burial of French President Francois Mitterrand in January 1996.

The Princess of Wales' funeral will also be a public event involving the causes close to her heart including her crusade against landmines and her charity work to reflect her image as the "People's Princess." Downing Street said.

The choice for the ceremony of Westminster Abbey which has hosted royal coronations and marriages through the centuries, although few royal funerals was seen here as a sign that the royal family is keen to respond to the great waves of emotion.

Diana's death has sparked in Britain and across the world. "The Prime Minister [Tony Blair] thinks the outpouring of grief has been a reflection of the depth and affection and appreciation that people felt for Princess Diana and that the funeral should reflect that," said Downing Street.

However, Buckingham Palace did not want to strictly define the nature of the ceremony. It notably did not use the word "royal" to describe the event. Asked which category applied to the funeral of Diana, a palace spokeswoman said: "The status is irrelevant. This is a unique funeral for a unique person."

The arrangements appear to be a compromise by

(Continued on page 7)



His Majesty King Hussein signs the book of condolences at the British Embassy in Amman on Monday (Photo by Yousef Allan)

## King offers Britons Jordan's heartfelt condolences

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has expressed grief and sadness and that of Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday at the death of Princess Diana, saying she was a unique person who dedicated herself to good causes.

"When I heard the news I found it so unbelievable and so shocking, I have been extremely saddened," the King told journalists after visiting the British embassy on Monday to sign a book of con-

lences.

"She was a unique person and she had done so much for humane causes everywhere. She will be a great loss for a long, long time to come," added the King.

"We offer the British people our heartfelt condolences in the name of all Jordanians," said the King, adding that the death of the princess "was a great loss because she had given so much for mankind."

In reply to a question about paparazzi harass-

ment, the King said: "There is need to re-examine the situation. The majority of journalists act responsibly under all circumstances unlike a certain group of irresponsible journalists who appear from time to time."

He said: "I believe there must be a revision of such situation and we must determine the limits of freedom for man and the limits which one cannot transcend because such action might result in

tragedy." The King was accompanied by Royal Court Chief Awn Khawneh.

Also on Monday Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath called at the British Embassy and offered their condolences.

Prince Mohammad, the King's personal representative, sent a cable of condolences to Queen Elizabeth II expressing his deep grief and sadness for the death of Princess Diana.

## Tarawneh calls on Albright to bring 'new initiative' to region

By Tareq Ayyoub  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Fayed Tarawneh urged U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to bring to the region a new initiative in order to overcome the deadlock in peace talks between the Palestinians and Israelis.

Dr. Tarawneh, who was speaking to members of the Jordan Businessmen Association on Sunday evening, added that the initiative should not focus on the "security needs" of Israel.

"In her visit to the region, we cannot go back to the terms of reference of Mr. Dennis Ross, where the security issue was the basic problem. The security needs are part of the whole peace process but not the whole issue," Dr. Tarawneh said.

"This matter needs an initiative. The American side is the only party which is able to submit such initiative," the minister said during his 90-minute lecture.

Dr. Tarawneh said U.S. initiative should be a "compromise solution" that would satisfy the Palestinians and Israelis alike.

The minister emphasised that Jordan and Egypt, who repeatedly mediate to overcome the logjam between the Palestinians and Israelis, are not qualified to launch such initiative.

"The visit of Madeleine Albright is an indication of American interests in the peace process. We hope that it will look at the Palestinian track as a whole... and crystallise American ideas with their four components in an initiative which the

two sides might accept," Dr. Tarawneh said.

The U.S. secretary of state is expected in the region on Sept. 10 where she will visit Israel, the Palestinian self-rule areas, Jordan, Syria, Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

The visit of Ms. Albright follows a visit by the U.S. Middle East special envoy, Dennis Ross, in August where he managed to initiate a series of security meetings that grouped Palestinian, Israeli and American security officials.

Meanwhile, Dr. Tarawneh told the businessmen that Israel still hinders the flow of Jordanian goods into the Palestinian territories in a bid to continue its "monopoly" over the Palestinian market in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"The security issue is still an unacceptable pretext. We still believe that Israel wants to continue its dominance in the West Bank because it is a captivated economy where Israel markets 12 per cent of its foreign exports," Dr. Tarawneh said.

Israeli exports to the Palestinian market amounts to \$2.4 billion, the minister added.

But Dr. Tarawneh emphasised that Israeli measures were not the only barriers that impede trade between the two banks of the Jordan River.

"We should not say that Israel alone hinders trade with the West Bank. There are procedures here in Jordan and the Palestinian National Authority (PNA)," Dr. Tarawneh explained.

He said among these procedures are those relating to the economic agreement the PNA had signed with Israel.

Dr. Tarawneh said the

King Hussein Bridge, through which Jordan transports goods into the PNA areas, is "about to fall down" and cannot bear any further pressure if more trucks are allowed to cross into the Palestinian territories.

He said that Jordan cannot negotiate with Israel the renovation of the bridge, "because this means a recognition of Israel's sovereignty" in the West Bank, and "we also cannot negotiate this matter with the PNA because they have no authority over the bridge."

Dr. Tarawneh said that this matter is one of the "major barriers" that impede exchange of goods with the PNA.

But he emphasised that "daily" talks are underway with Israel to overcome these difficulties.

The minister said that among the other difficulties is Israeli embassy delays to grant Jordanians visas to Israel "because there are around 12,000 Jordanian who obtained entry visa to Israel and remained there illegally, where they work without permits."

Dr. Tarawneh said that this problem gave Israel the excuse to use the "security issue" as a pretext to slow down the flow of goods into the Palestinian market.

Dr. Tarawneh told the businessmen that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has a plan to ensure that maximum assistance is given to the private sector by Jordanian embassies abroad in order to facilitate their contact with their counterparts and attract foreign investments to the Kingdom.

## Netanyahu seeks pardon for Azzam

TEL AVIV (R) — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Monday he told Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak that Israel expected him to pardon an Israeli Druze convicted of spying for Israel.

"I told him that we expect him to find a way to pardon or release Azzam and bring him back to Israel," Mr. Netanyahu, who spoke by telephone to Mr. Mubarak Sunday, said on Israel Radio.

"As prime minister, I will not rest until he returns home. He is an innocent man."

An Egyptian state security court convicted Azzam Sunday of making criminal arrangements to spy for Israel's intelligence service, the Mossad, and sentenced him to 15 years with hard labour. Azzam was arrested last November.

Mr. Netanyahu called the sentence an "outrage."

Azzam's alleged Egyptian accomplice, Imad Abdul Hamid Ismail, and two Israeli-Arab women — Zahra Yousef Jreiss and Mona Ahmad Shawahna — were given life sentences on the same charges.

"He didn't spy even for a moment," Mr. Netanyahu said in a separate interview with Israel army radio.

Calling the verdict "distorted," he added: "I am sorry the Egyptian judicial system worked against justice and truth."

Asked if Israeli tourists should avoid Egypt out of fear of being arrested as spies, Mr. Netanyahu said: "I hope we will be able to bring Azzam home so that no one will be tempted to come to this conclusion."

## Israel eases closures, Netanyahu says won't hand over land now

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel Monday eased its month-long closure of The West Bank and Gaza Strip, apparently to improve the tense relations with the Palestinians ahead of next week's visit by U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

Four thousand labourers and 2,000 merchants, 250 teachers and 200 employees of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) will be allowed to enter Israel, the army said.

The Palestinians dismissed the step as insufficient, demanding that the closure be lifted completely.

The travel ban, which barred all Palestinians from entering Israel, was

imposed after the Jerusalem bombing that Israel suspects was conducted by Islamists.

The attack and the closure prompted acrimonious exchanges between Israel and the Palestinians. Israel has accused the Palestinians of appeasing instead of arresting Islamists.

The Palestinians said the assailants apparently had come from abroad and that the travel ban constituted collective punishment aimed at winning concessions at the negotiating table.

Israel says the closure was imposed purely for security reasons.

Ms. Albright will come to the Middle East on Sept. 10 to meet with the Israeli and

### Palestinians cancel meeting with Israelis

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — Palestinian Prosecutor General Fayed Abu Rahma cancelled the meeting with his Israeli counterpart Edna Arbel and Attorney General Elyakim Rubinstein at Palestinian President Yasser Arafat's order, a Palestinian source said. Mr. Rubinstein had requested the meeting to discuss Israel's demand that the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) extradite several Palestinians accused of involvement in anti-Israeli attacks, the Israeli lim news service reported. The Israelis had also hoped to forge judicial cooperation with the Palestinians, lim said. The PNA has refused to hand over any Palestinians to Israel, insisting it will try those suspected of wrongdoing in its own courts.

Palestinian leaders in hopes of trying to break the impasse and end months of crisis triggered by Jewish settlement expansion in the West Bank and Gaza.

The Israeli daily Haaretz reported Monday that under a U.S. compromise proposal, Israel would be asked to

restrict the expansion of Jewish settlements, but not be required to freeze construction completely.

Under the U.S. proposal, new homes in Jewish settlements could only

be built in areas already under Israeli control.

(Continued on page 7)

## Israel arrests 10 Palestinians after protest over land use by settlers

JERICHO (R) — Israeli security forces arrested 10 Palestinians in the Jordan Valley Monday during protests against the ploughing of land by Jewish settlers, an Israeli police spokeswoman said.

About 300 Palestinian farmers led by Agriculture Minister Abdul Jawad Saleh staged a sit-in at an agricultural centre near the self-ruled town of Jericho.

They were protesting against the ploughing by four settlers of land which Palestinian officials said should have been transferred to the Palestine National Authority (PNA) two years ago under an interim peace deal signed in 1993.

The ownership issue is now with an Israeli court.

Mr. Saleh said the army and police arrived at the scene and "started beating old men in a barbaric way to try to evacuate them from the land."

A police spokeswoman said about 100 Palestinians had rioted while "trying to disrupt the work of Israeli farmers" and 10 demonstrators were arrested.

Jewish settlers said they had rented the land from an Arab, a claim rejected by Palestinian officials.

In Gaza, around 100 Palestinian truck owners demonstrated in front of the municipality building protesting against what they said was the intervention of the PNA.

(Continued on page 7)

## Israel arrests 7 brothers in bombing investigation

BETHLEHEM (AFP) — Israeli troops arrested seven brothers from a village near Bethlehem early Monday, apparently in connection with investigations of the Jerusalem bombing, relatives of the suspects said.

Three of the brothers from the Sbayah family ran an electrical repair shop in Bethlehem and may be suspected of having sold supplies to a bomb-making laboratory discovered near here by Palestinian police in July, Palestinian sources said.

"About 30 soldiers came

in the middle of the night, they searched the rooms for an hour and a half and then took my sons away," the father of the men, Mohammad Hussein Sbayah, told Agence France Presse.

The family lives in Al Khader village south of Bethlehem in an area still under control of the Israeli army.

Israel has focused its investigation into the Jerusalem bombing on the Bethlehem area, where Palestinian police in mid-July found the bomb-making

(Continued on page 7)



TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu Monday called Syria's conditions for restarting peace talks with Israel "unacceptable."

On-again off-again talks between Israel and Syria have failed to resume since Mr. Netanyahu took office in June 1996. U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright will meet with leaders of both countries as part of her first Mideast tour, next week.

Of course we can go forward on the Syrian track — if the Syrians want to," Mr. Netanyahu told Israel radio.

"It is not dependent only upon us. We want negotiations — I have said so since the beginning of my prime ministership — and we have been looking for ways to restart the negotiations. But we cannot conduct negotiations with ourselves."

"The Syrians' conditions for entering into negotiations are basically their end

demands, which is unacceptable."

Syria demands Israel's withdrawal from the Golan Heights, occupied by Israel since the 1967 Mideast war. The previous Labour-led Israeli government had said it was willing to discuss an Israeli withdrawal, and Syria has insisted talks continue where they left off.

But Mr. Netanyahu, who opposes returning the Golan, has said any understandings reached between

Syria and previous Israeli governments are not binding on his administration.

Mr. Netanyahu added that resuming negotiations was in the interests of both countries.

"We both want to avoid growing tensions in Lebanon, and I think Syria understands that the benefits they will get from a peace — economic and political and geopolitical — are great, just as they are for us."

### PNA police round up 120 thieves of Israeli cars

HEBRON (AFP)—Palestinian police have arrested 120 people in Hebrn in a sweep against car theft rings targeting Israelis, officials said Monday. The crackdown over the past two days was ordered by Palestinian President Yasser Arafat and will be followed by similar roundups in other autonomous areas of the West Bank, a security source said. The 120 men arrested in Hebrn would be taken to court, he said. Since the extension of Palestinian self-rule to seven West Bank towns and cities in late 1995 and early 1996, Israeli police charge that thousands of cars have been stolen from Israel and taken to the autonomous areas, usually to be dismantled for a black market in spare parts.

**TUNIS (R)** — Libya celebrated on Monday the 28th anniversary of Muammar Qadhafi's seizure of power with an air force display in the skies over Tripoli. State-run television, monitored from Tunis, showed fighters, helicopters and other military aircraft flying over the capital city. The display included fighters bought from France and the former Soviet Union and lasted at least three hours. "This force is to face anyone who dares attack (installations in) this country," the television said. Mr. Qadhafi, an army colonel who took power in a bloodless coup on September 1, 1969, was expected to address the nation on television later in the day. Tripoli-based diplomats said it was the first show of its kind in Tripoli since 1992, when Libya has been placed under an arms embargo imposed by the U.N.

BAGHDAD (R) — Muslim pilgrims who defied the U.N. air embargo on Iraq and flew to Saudi Arabia last April have been awarded bravery orders, an Iraqi newspaper said Monday. "On behalf of President Saddam Hussein, Minister of Endowment and Religious Affairs, Abdul Muneim Al-Hamid Salih, decorated with bravery orders pilgrims of the plume of faith to Mecca who defied the air embargo imposed by the forces of infidel," Al Qadisiyah said. Iraq in April flew 104 Muslim pilgrims to Saudi Arabia for the Hajj, defying sanctions barring international flights by Iraqi aircraft.

TEHRAN (AP) — A man was executed for spying for the United States, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Monday. Seyavash Bayani was hanged last week in Tehran's Evin prison for passing military secrets to the Central Intelligence Agency, IRNA reported. Bayani was arrested in 1995 and confessed to spying for the U.S., the agency said. Bayani left Iran in 1984 and received political asylum in the U. S., where he lived for 11 years, said the agency. He was then ordered to return to Iran by the CIA, IRNA said.

DOHA (AP) — The wife of an Israeli official in Qatar has given birth to a boy, the first Israeli child born in this Gulf state, the Gulf Times reported Monday. Shiri Segev, 27, gave birth here Sunday morning, the English language daily said. She is married to Ilan Segev, deputy chief of Israel's trade mission to Qatar. Mr. Segev, 28, told the paper that his wife had planned to fly to Israel to have the child but that the baby was born a month early. The infant, the Segevs' first child, has not yet been named, the paper said. Mr. Segev said he and his wife plan to take the baby to Israel shortly to celebrate with close relatives and friends. He said he would return before a planned regional economic summit in November.

demands, which is unacceptable."

Syria demands Israel's withdrawal from the Golan Heights, occupied by Israel since the 1967 Mideast war. The previous Labour-led Israeli government had said it was willing to discuss an Israeli withdrawal, and Syria has insisted talks continue where they left off.

But Mr. Netanyahu, who opposes returning the Golan, has said any understandings reached between

# Iran doubts Baghdad's sincerity in lifting travel ban on Iranians

TEHRAN (AFP) — Iran voiced doubt on Monday over Iraq's sincerity in offering to allow Iranians to visit Shiite Islam's holiest sites and asked for serious talks on the subject.

The director of Iran's Pilgrimage Organisation, Hussein Rezai, urged Baghdad to open official negotiations with Tehran to "clarify the conditions" for such visits.

"Iraq has refused our offer to exchange official delegations to discuss the subject," he told newspapers.

Baghdad informed Tehran last week of its decision to lift a 17-year travel ban on Iranians on Sept. 4, the date on which Iraq marks the start of their 1980-1988 war.

The Iraqi interior ministry said later that 3,000 Iranian pilgrims would be allowed to enter Iraq each week.

But it warned that the pil-

## Key Somali faction leader says airstrip clashes settled

**MOGADISHU (AFP)** — Somali faction leader Hussein Mohammad Aidede on Monday said fighting among his supporters took place at K-50 airstrip south of the capital Mogadishu but had been resolved, according to his radio station.

Mr. Aidede accused the press of greatly exaggerating casualty figures, stating that only three people had died in the fighting, said to have been caused by a dispute over taxes levied by General Aidede's faction on the narcotic plant, qat, normally imported from Kenya through the airstrip.

Qat is chewed by Somalis and populations throughout the Arabian Gulf region as a stimulant.

Syria and previous Israeli governments are not binding on his administration. Mr. Netanyahu added that resuming negotiations was in the interests of both countries.

"We both want to avoid growing tensions in Lebanon, and I think Syria understands that the benefits they will get from a peace — economic and political and geopolitical — are great, just as they are for us."

# Baghdad's lifting n Iranians

grims should preserve public order and abide by Iraqi laws, reflecting the tension between the two neighbours who fought a war from 1980 to 1988.

Since 1980, Iranians have been barred from travelling to Iraq, their neighbour to the west, and vice-versa. Only official delegations have been allowed to cross the border.

Najaf and Karbala, south of Baghdad, are home to shrines to the Imams Ali and Hussein, while the capital houses tombs of other Shiite imams.

Iraq and mainly Shiite Iran have yet to sign a peace treaty, a full nine years after the August 20, 1988, ceasefire in their war.

The question of prisoners of war and those missing in action remains a key stumbling-block.

## Ali faction leader trip clashes settled

“Only three people were killed and an undisclosed number wounded in the unfortunate fighting,” the radio quoted Mr. Aidede as having said, after visiting the area and resolving the dispute between the Ayr and Sa’ad sub-clans of the Hahr Gedir clan dominating south Mogadishu.

The radio said Mr. Aidede also sent messages of condolences to the families of the victims.

Travellers arriving in the Somali capital from the conflict area had said that at least nine people died and four were wounded in the fighting.

The K-50 fighting between the supporters of Gen. Aidede — who is regarded by his United

نحن نطالبكم يا فلسطيني  
المبأ الأوسروا  
شل دولتكم فاملا  
انكم تخلصوا منكم منكم في فلسطين

**PROTESTING UNRWA DECISION:** Palestinian children on Monday pose with placards in front of burning tyres during a protest in the 'Ain Al Hilweh Palestinian refugee camp, against the decision of the United Nations Relief and Work Agency to freeze university scholarships, all cash emergency assistance for hardship cases and shelter rehabilitation. To cope with the fiscal squeeze, the relief agency who helps 3.4 million Palestinian refugees, has had to cut international staff by 15% to 135 and cancel the hiring of 250 new teachers needed to cope with a fresh intake of 11,000 students this year (AFP photo)

# Turkey bars international peace mission from Kurdish southeast

**DIYARBAKIR (AP)** — Turkey barred an international peace mission from the Kurdish southeast Monday, claiming it was a "rebel play" to create unrest. "We preempted their play to disturb our people," Ahmet Erturk, deputy governor of the region, said in a telephone interview.

He said the convoy of 54 buses carrying 300 politicians, trade unionists, human rights activists and others

The Turkish government insists the peace mission was a thinly disguised propaganda play by Kurdish rebels. The group left Istanbul Sunday after a rally by about 5,000 supporters. Local peace activists joined them along the way, and thousands of people in Diyarbakir were preparing to greet the convoy.

The peace convoy was organised to promote a political solution to the war between autonomy-seeking Kurdish rebels and Turkish troops.

Although most Western governments, including the United States, accept Turkey's harsh stance against the guerrillas, they also criticize its harsh treatment of Kurds.

## Khartoum puts emphasis on peace in bid to end its isolation

PRETORIA (AFP) — The Islamic regime in Sudan has launched an all-out bid to secure peace in an attempt to end its isolation on the international stage and start rebuilding an economy wrecked by 14 years of civil war and recurring famine.

"We want peace with everybody. Our priority is reconstruction of the country," Sudanese minister for federal affairs, Ali Mohammad Ali Hajj, said Sunday during a one-day South Africa-brokered summit between Sudan and Uganda.

Each country accuses the other of providing cross-border support to rebel groups.

"We think regional peace is important for everybody," Mr. Hajj said, adding: "We would like to assure the others that there is nothing to be afraid of."

Asked why it was so important for Sudan to have peace now, Foreign Minister Ali Osman Mohammad Taha: "It does not answer, saying merely: 'It is our priority.'"

Mr. Taha said Sudan was "in a state of war" with Uganda which Sudan has accused of occupying a portion of its territory. Its relations with Eritrea have soured badly even though the two sides were on good terms while Eritreans were fighting for independence from Ethiopia. Relations with Ethiopia itself and with Egypt are little better.

The civil war pitting the Muslim Arabised north against rebels from the south where the population is mainly Christian or animist, has poisoned Khartoum's relations with its neighbours, re-

The biggest rebel group is the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), led by John Garang, who is seen as the key to any permanent settlement. Colonel Garang met South African President Nelson Mandela here on Thursday but refused to stay for the summit. Mr. Haj said Sudan was "very disappointed" that Col. Garang had decided not to attend and suggested that the rebel leader was "not interested" in peace.

Col. Garang wants guarantees that if Sudan stays a unified state, the present Islamist regime must make way for a secular government with a multi-party system.

Otherwise, he said last week that "amicable divorce may be applicable" and that the south

[illegible]





PRIME MINISTER VISITS JCCC: Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Monday calls on at the Jordan Civil Consumers Corporation (JCCC) and urges its board to facilitate selling procedures and accept credit cards in the JCCC's vending transactions. Dr. Majali, who was accompanied by Minister of Trade, Industry and Supply Hani Mulki, called for providing goods at reasonable and competitive prices and within reach of all employees (Petra photo)

## New controls on taxi industry have owners, union distressed

**By Rana Hussein**  
*Jordan Times Staff Reporter*

AMMAN — Taxi owners are angered by new licensing procedures introduced by the Ministry of Interior, despite assurances that the new regulations will not adversely affect their interests.

The new regulations require that any individual or company wishing to start a new taxi service in Amman must have a minimum capital of JD1 million and at least 75 cars operating within the city limits.

For Zarqa and Irbid, the second and third largest cities in the country, regulations require a capital of JD500,000 and 50 cars.

In the rest of the Kingdom, the requirements are a capital of JD250,000 and 25 cars.

"These new regulations will not affect the already operating taxis, but rather our aim is to organise and modernise the transportation operation in the Kingdom," Secretary General of the Ministry of Interior Hashem Sabbagh explained.

In order to organise the transportation operation, taxi drivers will not be allowed to sell their cars to other individuals as taxis, but can sell them as private cars or merge with the companies to be established, Dr. Sabbagh stated.

"This way we can control the taxi operation in the Kingdom, and increase the employment opportunities," Dr. Sabbagh told the Jordan Times.

But according to Abdul Karim Mashaeikh, treasurer and a committee member at the Taxi Owners Union (TOU), some of these regulations are "unfair to owners of the current taxis."

"The regulation which prohibits taxi owners from selling their cars as a public vehicle is unfair and violates citizens' rights," Mr. Mashaeikh said.

He said this will cause financial losses to the owners of these cars, because if a taxi owner wants to sell his car as a private vehicle "its value will drop dramatically, but if the owner sells it as a public vehicle it will maintain a good value."

"These new regulations will only benefit the rich, who will manipulate the taxi industry in Jordan, and will keep the taxi drivers as servants to them all their life," Mr. Mashaeikh said.

Currently, there are almost 11,000 taxis operating in the Kingdom, according to Mr. Mashaeikh.

However, Dr. Sabbagh said that taxi owners have several options which include selling their vehicles to the newly-established businesses or forming a coalition with other taxis to establish a business that meets the new regulations.

"The reason we impose these high amounts of capital and cars is to make sure that individuals or companies wishing to establish this business are serious about it," Dr. Sabbagh said.

Under the new regulations, the new taxis will have a different colour than the currently operating taxis, and each taxi is required to install wireless devices (radios) and be on call 24 hours a day, he added.

Dr. Sabbagh said the new businesses will offer benefits and privileges for taxi drivers, which they were deprived of as taxi owners or drivers working for taxi offices.

"Taxi drivers who join the new business will have health insurance, will be protected by the labour law and will join the social security programme," Dr. Sabbagh said, adding that taxi drivers in the past were deprived from all these benefits.

He stressed that the ministry's step is essential to meet the expected increase in numbers of tourists visiting the area within the next three years.

"We are expecting large numbers of tourists to flock to this region in the year 2000 to celebrate Christmas, and with these new regulations we expect to increase the number of taxis in the Kingdom to meet this influx," Dr. Sabbagh explained.

Muhammad Othman, who works as a taxi driver at an office in Amman, said that he will probably not be affected by the new regulations because he doesn't own a taxi, but said the increase in taxis in the Kingdom will affect the business.

"I am not afraid of the new law, but my worry is that there will be too many taxis which will definitely decrease the income I make," the 35-year-old said.

Dr. Sabbagh concluded by saying: "It is a free market, and we are trying to create competition in order to improve the transportation services in the Kingdom, and it is up to the current taxi drivers to either improve their conditions or remain with their current services."

## Telecommunications workshop opens here today

AMMAN (J.T.) — The first Arab regional workshop on telecommunications policy and regulation opens here today, organised by the Adam Smith Institute of London (ASI), in association with the Jordanian Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC), and Price Waterhouse, according to a statement released by ASI.

According to ASI economic adviser Huda Innam, the three-day event will provide an opportunity for participating delegates from Arab countries to learn more about the process of regulating telecommunications in a competitive and privatised market.

She added that leading world experts will share international experience and facilitate discussion and cooperation between Arab countries.

## International conference to deal with agriculture in dry areas

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the International Conference on "Agricultural Growth, Sustainable Resource Management and Poverty Alleviation in the Low Rainfall Areas of West Asia and North Africa" will be held in Amman from Sept. 2-6, according to a statement issued by the International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA).

The broad goal of the conference is to contribute towards balanced agricultural growth and food security in the eight countries of the Mashreq and Maghreb regions of West Africa and North Africa, through the participatory formulation of strategies for sustainable resource management and poverty alleviation in the low rainfall areas in the context of market liberalisation, the statement said.

In pursuit of this overall goal the conference will:

- Present the principal results and conclusions of the joint ICARDA-IFPRI Mashreq-Maghreb project for the development of sustainable integrated crop/livestock production systems in the low rainfall areas of West Asia and North Africa, to an informed audience from that region and elsewhere.
- Initiate a discussion, by four subject-matter working groups, of those results and of current government policies.
- Seek to identify the appropriate medium- and longer-term roles of the low rainfall areas in contributing to poverty alleviation and food security.
- Develop a close participatory dialogue amongst policy-makers from the region and donor agencies, on possible solutions and their implications for future economic, social and environmental policies.
- Evaluate consequences of alternative policies and strategies for different types of low rainfall areas, and
- Examine the need for follow-up action to the current M&M project and develop recommendations for future participatory research on the identified issues, according to the statement.

The conference is organised by the International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), the Jordanian National Centre for Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer (NCARTT), the International Food Policy Institute (IFPRI), and the German Foundation for International Development (DSE), and co-sponsored by International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD).

## HRH Crown Prince Hassan reviews agenda, discusses goals with conference organiser

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday conferred with Adel Biltaji, director general of the International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), and reviewed the agenda of the International Conference on "Agricultural Growth, Sustainable Resource Management and Poverty Alleviation in the Low Rainfall Areas of West Asia and North Africa," which opens today in Amman.

Prince Hassan and Dr. Biltaji also discussed the role of ICARDA and its activities in promoting food production in dry areas.

Following the meeting, which was also attended by Minister of Agriculture Mijhem Khrisba, Dr. Biltaji told Jordan Television that the conference, organised by ICARDA, "deals with the effects of economic reforms on agriculture in areas with poor rainfall, and discusses how technology can reduce the negative factors and ensure agricultural development in the badia regions."

"We discussed ICARDA's role in helping people in arid regions utilise the available water resources and introduce new improved strains of plants and seeds, which can endure dry and hot climates and yield well."

"The discussion also covered means of improving pasture lands in the badia regions of the Near East and North Africa," Dr. Biltaji said in reference to his meeting with the Crown Prince.

"ICARDA has been working with Jordan for the past 20 years through the country's ministry of agriculture, research centres, and universities, employing the most up-to-date scientific methods and techniques in order to promote agricultural development," he remarked.

The conference will bring together about 60 participants from the eight countries of the Mashreq-Maghreb regions: Algeria, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syria and Tunisia; and from national, regional, and international research institutions and organisations working in the fields of agriculture, natural resource management and policy formulation. The target group for the conference will be key decision-makers in ministries of agriculture, finance, planning, interior and rural affairs, and national senior researchers and advisors, the statement concluded.

## Minister gives schools passing grade on first day of classes

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Education and Higher Education Munther Masri Monday inspected a number of schools in Amman Governorate on the first day of the new school year and announced that everything was going as planned.

The minister, accompanied by senior assistants, said the schools did not witness any confusion comparable to that of last year, since teachers who left their posts to work in the Gulf states did so before the scholastic year began, enabling the ministry to find replacements.

Textbooks were ready and distributed to the students, and laboratories, libraries, and other utilities were all ready, Dr. Masri noted.

The minister said that 80 per cent of the Kingdom's government schools are owned by the ministry, which is trying to raise the ratio to 100 per cent and eliminate the two-shift system that was introduced due to shortages in school buildings.

Ministry of Education's Secretary General Izzat Jaradat announced that 70,000 teachers are employed to educate the 1.4 million students who began school Monday, including 122,000 entering the first elementary class.

Students in government schools account for 74 per cent of the total enrolment in the Kingdom, 14 per cent in private schools, and 12 per cent in the schools run by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

Dr. Jaradat said 80 per cent of the instructors teach at the government schools, 14 per cent in private schools, and six per cent in UNRWA schools.

A total of 4,500 educational institutions operate in the country, including 62 per cent in the private sector, 33 per cent in the public sector, and five per cent affiliated with UNRWA, according to Dr. Jaradat.

## UJ celebrates 35th anniversary

AMMAN (J.T.) — Today marks the 35th anniversary of the University of Jordan (UJ), which was established in 1962 as the first institution of higher education in the Kingdom.

When it was founded, the university had only one faculty, the Faculty of Arts, offering education to 167 students, and a staff of three full-time professors and five part-time professors, a statement from the university said.

Now, more than 22,000 students studying in 15 faculties attend UJ, whose staff has grown to 900 teachers and professors, the statement continued.

In addition to 50 programmes at the undergraduate level and five programmes in vocational training, postgraduate students can now choose from 19 fields of study for the Ph.D. degree, and 62 programmes for the masters degree, the statement announced.

The university's library contains 700,000 publications and subscribes to 945 specialised periodicals, including 320 in Arabic, in addition to housing rare manuscripts, U.N. documents, and rare reference books, according to the statement.

Adjacent to UJ is Jordan University Hospital, which serves as a training institution for students of medicine, dentistry, and nursing.

## News In Brief

**Royal Decrees Issued Monday**

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Monday approving the Investment Promotion Laws of 1997 granted to non-Jordanians. According to these laws, non-Jordanians are allowed to entirely own a project, or a part of it, except for certain projects in the field of construction, trade and mining. Another decree was also issued approving the scientific research regulations for improving the educational process.

**Delegation to attend conference**

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the 98th conference of the International Parliamentary Union (IPU) which will be held in Cairo Sept. 11 through 16, 1997. Jordan will be represented by Senators Thouqan Hindawi, Taher Hikmat, Toujan Faisal and Zeid Zureiqat. The conference will focus on international political, economic and social conditions and fostering ties among the world's parliaments and people.

## Cooperation between Jordan, Germany reaches advanced stage

BONN (Petra) — A press release issued by the information department of the Federal Republic of Germany placed Jordan among the important nations cooperating with Germany in the field of development.

In recent years, collaboration between the two nations has reached an advanced stage, marked by excellent bilateral relations and the exchange of visits by the two heads of state, the statement noted.

The announcement cited cooperation in water-related matters in particular, stating that Germany was financing a number of important projects, illustrating Bonn's intent to give momentum to the Middle East peace process.

Germany has shown interest in assisting Jordan establish waste water treatment plants, enlarge and modernise the communications sector of its infrastructure, establish small-scale industrial projects, and modernise the tourism sector's facilities, the statement continued.

Other collaborative projects include the harbour at Aqaba, railways, energy production, the development of the Jordan Valley region, the water supply for drinking and irrigation, the banking and industrial sectors, agriculture, and the production of veterinary vaccines, the statement said.

According to the press release, Germany is currently helping Jordan implement an irrigation project in the southern Jordan Valley and expand the main Jordan Valley water canal by 14 kilometres.

Germany has recently allocated nearly JD4 million to boost the Kingdom's industrial sector, and nearly JD2.5 million to protect the archaeological sites at the ancient Nabataean city of Petra, the press release concluded.

WHAT'S GOING ON

PLAY

Children's play — "How to Recover Our Names" at the Royal Cultural Centre, at 6:00 p.m.

FILM

"The Road" at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, Jabal Amman at 6:00 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

Display of caricature drawings by Naji Al 'Ali at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, Jabal Amman, until Sept. 6.

Book exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre, until Sept. 9.

Works by Basem Al Mahdi at the Jordan Plastic Art Association Gallery, Jabal Weibdeh, until Sept. 8.

ArtiZamian and Bani Harnida present a Bani Harnida exhibition (rugs, cushions, runners, wall hangings and more) at Al Baidar Hall of Kan Zamian, until Sept. 20.

## Crimes against women, children highlighted by police report

**By Tareq Ayyoub**  
*Special to the Jordan Times*

AMMAN — A recent study by the Public Security Department (PSD) has indicated that 46 rape cases were reported in Jordan in the first half of this year, with a total of 250 "violent crimes" committed against women.

The study, submitted during a two-day seminar by Col. Abdul Rahman Shara'a, head of the Department of Criminal Investigation at the PSD, indicated that 16 women were killed in the same period.

Nine were killed because of "crimes of honour," two due to "family disputes," two were killed during robbery attempts, and the remaining three were killed for various reasons.

The study, which was made available to the Jordan Times, showed that 14 females were kidnapped in the first seven months of this year and 42 suffered "severe harm."

The study indicated that 98 per cent of the crimes committed in these categories were discovered by police.

The study, submitted during a seminar entitled "Towards a secure Jordanian family, 2000" that was held last Tuesday, indicated that Amman governorate came first among the 12 governorates with 114 crimes against women.

Irbid came next with 38 crimes followed by Zarqa with 26 crimes, Balqa with 14 crimes, Karak with 11, and Mafraq and Jerash with 9 crimes each.

The report showed that 119 crimes were committed against females below 18 years old, 93 crimes were committed against women aged 18-27, 37 crimes against women aged 28-37, 14 crimes against women aged 38-47, and 8 crimes against females above 48 years.

It added that 139 crimes were committed against unemployed females, 15 against women who hold free business, 14 against government employees, 37 against female students, and 66 crimes against household females.

The 1996 figures showed that 63 rape cases were reported in the Kingdom, 42 cases in 1995, 36 cases in 1994, and 29 cases in 1993, according to the report.

Total "violent crimes" against women in 1996 numbered 451, compared to 441 in 1995, 368 in 1994 and 312 in 1993, the study said.

The study reported that 39 women were killed in 1996, compared to 35 in 1995, 35 in 1994, and 41 in 1993.

It showed that 15 murders recorded in 1996 were classified as "crimes of honour," compared to 17 murders in 1995, 21 in 1994, and 32 in 1993.

On the other hand, the study said 347 crimes were committed against teenagers during the first seven months of this year, compared to 793 crimes in 1996, 641 in 1995, 570 in 1994, and 469 in 1993.

It indicated that 23 teenagers were raped during the first seven months of this year, nine were killed, eight were victims of attempted murder, 14 were kidnapped, and 123 received "serious injuries."

The study showed that 139 crimes against teenagers were reported in the capital this year, 56 crimes were reported in Irbid, 52 in Zarqa, 21 crimes in Balqa and Karak each, 12 in Madaba, and nine crimes each in Tafleh and Mafraq.

Of the nine murders of teenagers this year, two were classified as "crimes of honour," three were the result of "immediate dispute," one without reason, and the remaining for several reasons.

It added that 14 teenagers were killed in 1996, compared to 13 in 1995, 12 in 1994, and 13 killed in 1993.

The study emphasised that 18 teenagers were victims of "attempted murder" in 1996, compared to 18 in 1995, 29 in 1994, and 14 in 1993.

During the opening speech of the two-day seminar, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said women and children who fall victim to abuse, rape, and violence at home require attention because they are the most at risk.

"These vulnerable groups require our attention and our sympathy, and the police are now creating a unit specialised in dealing with such crimes," he said in his speech, which was read by Minister of Interior Nathir Rashid.

"Society must provide protection to children who fall victim to abuse, but this cannot be achieved without effective and thorough investigation, and in the case of rape and other sexual assault, the victimised women should receive humanitarian treatment based on respect," Crown Prince Hassan added.



# Cambodian king prays for peace as fighting continues

SIEM REAP (R) — Cambodia's King Norodom Sihanouk took part in Buddhist prayers for peace Monday as sporadic shelling continued around the contested northwestern border town of O'smach.

King Sihanouk, who Sunday offered to mediate between his ousted son, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, and the prince's former co-premier.

Mr. Hun Sen, said he wished Cambodia could be peaceful and united.

"The ceremony is to wish that our nation and people stop fighting," King Sihanouk said as he entered a historic royal temple opposite his villa in the centre of Siem Reap.

"It is to let our nation enjoy unity again, as during Angkor rule," he said, referring to the 12th century Cambodian empire that had its capital at the nearby Angkor temple complex.

The king released nine turtles in a Buddhist merit-making ritual and said he hoped the Cambodian people could also find freedom and peace.

Despite the king's repeated pleas for peace, fighting continued in Cambodia's northwest Monday.

Government forces under Hun Sen attacking O'smach fired intermittent shells at royalist troops loyal to Prince Ranariddh, and their Khmer Rouge guerrilla allies dug in on high ground up against the Thai border. Thai army officers monitoring the fighting in Cambodia said.

One Thai soldier was wounded by a stray bullet fired from inside Cambodia Monday and Thai forces were on alert to prevent any slipover of fighting into

## U.N. rights boss in Cambodia defends staff from complaint

PHNOM PENH (R) — The U.N. Special Representative for Human Rights in Cambodia defended his staff's action Monday, but said he would investigate any complaints about U.N. rights workers from Cambodian premier, Hun Sen.

Thomas Hammerberg arrived in Cambodia Saturday for talks with human rights workers and government leaders following calls from Premier Hun Sen for the replacement of some U.N. rights workers.

Mr. Hun Sen said there was insufficient evidence to back up reports from U.N. rights workers that there were widespread human rights violations after Mr. Hun Sen's ouster of his co-premier, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, in July.

"Everything I've seen has been very impressive," Mr. Hammerberg said of the work of the U.N.'s Centre for Human Rights in Cambodia (UNCHR). "I think they've done a good job under difficult circumstances. They have been very careful with information."

Officials at the UNCHR estimated that some 40 supporters of Mr. Ranariddh's FUNCINPEC Party were killed in the aftermath of Mr. Hun Sen's coup.

Most of the victims were allegedly royalist military and intelligence officials as well as their bodyguards, rights workers said.

"What we have said publicly has been based on testimonies not only of one eyewitness but of several eyewitnesses. We corroborate all our information," Mr. Hammerberg said.

"What we've said is that there have been cases of execution of FUNCINPEC military people after they were arrested and these cases that we have information about, we have provided to the government and we have asked the government to look into this."

Mr. Hun Sen said last month he wanted an apology from the United Nations for reporting that members of the opposition had been killed.

Thai soldiers, they said. Political analysts said they were not optimistic about the chances of Mr. Hun Sen accepting King Sihanouk's offer of mediation.

Meanwhile, Mr. Hun Sen has prepared a counter-proposal to King Norodom Sihanouk's appeal for a ceasefire and peace talks to end factional fighting in the troubled country, senior officials said Monday.

Mr. Hun Sen, Cambodia's powerful second prime minister and newly named First

Prime Minister Ung Huot are seeking an audience with the ailing 74-year-old monarch — now staying in the northern town of Siem Reap — in order to present their plan, the officials said.

"I can say that the two prime ministers will go to report directly to the king very soon," said Secretary of State for Information Khieu Kanharith, declining to reveal the substance of the plan.

"I am not calling it a counter-proposal, but I can

say that the two prime ministers will have an audience with the king and talk about some issues and among those is the king's proposal," he said.

He said he was not yet aware if the king had received or replied to the premier's request for an audience.

Other officials said they believed the audience — which would centre on the counter-proposal — could be held in as little as two days time if the monarch agreed.

King Sihanouk, who had been absent from his country for six months undergoing medical treatment in Beijing, returned home Friday with a plea for an end to hostilities between Hun Sen's forces and those loyal to deposed First Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh who was ousted in July.

In a rare press conference Sunday, the king appealed for both sides to stop fighting and reconcile with himself as a referee.

But he noted that Mr. Hun Sen had initially rejected the idea because he did not want the constitutional king — Prince Ranariddh's father — to involve himself in politics or government affairs.

Analysts said it was likely that any proposal from Mr. Hun Sen would require the prince's supporters — now battling to retain control of their besieged last bastion on the Thai border — to lay down their weapons and renounce their struggle.

Prince Ranariddh has rejected similar conditions which were set by Mr. Hun Sen when the prince proposed a ceasefire to honour the return of the king.



Cambodia's King Sihanouk smiles as he is mobbed by an adoring crowd prior to a service at a Buddhist temple near his residence in the northern town of Siem Reap. The King, who returned to the war-torn country last week, said he would pray for peace (Reuters photo)

## Congolese president launches air raids against rival

KINSHASA (AFP) — Forces loyal to Congolese President Pascal Lissouba Monday carried out air raids by helicopter over northern parts of the capital Brazzaville held by supporters of his main rival, Denis Sassou Nguesso, an independent source told AFP.

Mi-24 helicopters attacked strongholds of the former military ruler early in the morning, said the source, contacted from Kinshasa, capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on the opposite shore of the Congo River.

Throughout Sunday afternoon, Brazzaville was shaken by heavy gunfire in a fierce battle for control of the city coinciding with the end of Mr. Lissouba's mandate, which has been prolonged by the constitutional court in a move to force General Sassou Nguesso has dismissed as illegal.

Explosions rattled windows some four kilometres away in Kinshasa.

The fighting broke out on June 5 when Mr. Lissouba attempted to disarm Gen. Sassou Nguesso's militia ahead of presidential elections scheduled for July 27, but which have since been postponed indefinitely.

The death toll is between 4,000 and 7,000 killed according to both sides. Brazzaville is now little more than a shell-scattered wreck, abandoned by many of its residents who have fled across the river or to other parts of Congo.

Lissouba loyalists first escalated the fighting from artillery battles to air raids in an initial helicopter assault on Aug. 26.

Gen. Sassou Nguesso representatives sent to peace negotiations in Libreville, where Gabonese President Omar Bongo is seeking to mediate a settlement, have announced that they will no longer recognise attempts by Brazzaville Mayor Bernard Kolelas to mediate in the conflict.

This statement followed an announcement Friday that 39 political groups, including that of Mr. Kolelas, had agreed a power-sharing arrangement which would establish a government of national unity and a continuance of existing institutions, such as Mr. Lissouba's presidency.

Gen. Sassou Nguesso's United Democratic Forces refused to sign the accord and sources in his ranks maintain they will not stop until Mr. Lissouba is ousted.

Mr. Lissouba went Saturday to Libreville, where he was taken by Mr. Bongo to the presidential palace to meet Organisation for African Unity and U.N. envoy Mohammad Sahnoun, who is also taking part in the mediation efforts.

## Indian premier wants to meet Pakistani counterpart in U.S.

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Indian Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral insisted Monday that he was keen to meet his Pakistani counterpart Nawaz Sharif during a visit to the United Nations this month.

Mr. Gujral told parliament in an apparent reversal of New Delhi's earlier stand: "If an opportunity comes (in New York), I will be happy to meet him," adding that he had held a "useful meeting" with Mr. Sharif in the Maldives in May.

Mr. Gujral's comments contradicted a statement by an Indian government spokesman Sunday that the Indian and Pakistani premiers were unlikely to meet in New York.

Mr. Gujral was first reported as saying on Aug. 30 that he would meet with Mr. Sharif in New York in a bid to improve bilateral relations.

Doubts were raised over the state of bilateral relations after artillery duels between the armies of the two South Asian rivals over their disputed Kashmir frontier late last month.

India said the shelling left 70 Pakistani soldiers dead — a claim denied by Islamabad.

The Economic Times and other newspapers, however, Monday quoted an Indian

official spokesman here as saying that the reports Saturday that Mr. Gujral would meet Mr. Sharif were misleading.

"The prime minister ... had only mentioned about the proposed foreign secretary-level talks between India and Pakistan," the official reportedly said. "There was no mention of talks at the prime ministerial level."

Mr. Gujral is scheduled to visit New York Sept. 20-22 to address the United Nations. He was originally to go later in the month but postponed the visit at Washington's request to meet U.S. President Bill Clinton.

Mr. Gujral also said Monday that the foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan, bitter South Asian rivals that have fought three wars since 1947, would go ahead with their meeting in New Delhi next month.

"We have suggested the dates to Pakistan. Their response is awaited."

Mr. Gujral said New Delhi desired "strong ties of friendship and cooperation with all neighbouring countries."

He reiterated that he had told the U.S. that he did not wish to discuss Indo-Pakistani relations with Mr. Clinton and wanted to confine the agenda to bilateral issues between New Delhi and Washington.

"There is much to be discussed between the two large democracies," the prime minister added. "I am looking forward to substantive discussions (with Mr. Clinton)."

The foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan are due to meet in New Delhi this month to pursue a dialogue which started in March after a gap of three years.

Meanwhile, police in Pakistan-controlled Azad (Free) Kashmir said Monday Indian mortar fire across the line dividing Kashmir killed a civilian.

They said 26-year-old Mohammad Reezay was killed Sunday evening when what they called an unprovoked barrage of mortar bombs fell on the border village of Leepa, 55 kilometres northwest of the state capital Muzaffargarh.

Military activity along the 720-kilometre line of control has subsided since last month's artillery and mortar exchanges in which at least 13 people were killed on both sides.

India and Pakistan accused one another of provoking the artillery battles ahead of a third round of bilateral peace talks expected to take place in mid-September in New Delhi.

## Karabakh defies Azerbaijan to hold elections

STEPANAKERT (AFP) — Voters in Nagorno-Karabakh headed for the polls Monday for presidential elections in defiance of Azerbaijan, with all three candidates supporting the ethnic-Armenian enclave's separatist drive.

All the candidates have vowed to press for strengthening Nagorno-Karabakh's military capabilities and gaining international recognition of its self-declared independence from Azerbaijan.

Widely expected to win the Caucasus region's second presidential elections since declaring independence from Azerbaijan was Arkady Ghukasyan, foreign minister of the republic since 1993.

Mr. Ghukasyan, 40, who heads Karabakh's negotiating team in talks with Azerbaijan and international mediators, said during his campaign: "All forces are united in the effort to defend independence."

Also running were Artur Tovmazyan, the 35-year-old speaker of parliament, and Boris Arushanyan, a deputy in parliament and a former deputy prime minister.

The 171 polling booths were to open for Karabakh's 89,302 registered voters at 7:00 a.m. (0300 GMT) and close at 8:00 p.m.

Azerbaijan's forces were defeated in a war between 1988 and 1994 that killed 20,000 people and resulted in the flight of the enclave's ethnic-Azeri population. A shaky ceasefire has been in effect since May 1994.

The U.S. State Department has said that a new round of "very serious" negotiations is expected in September over Nagorno-Karabakh.

Oil-rich Azerbaijan has refused to give up sovereignty and branded Monday's election earlier this month as "illegal."

However, Vartan Oskanyan, the deputy foreign minister of Armenia, which has not recognised Nagorno-Karabakh but remains its main lifeline, said the elections would not harm the negotiating process.

"Only an elected authority can hold negotiations in the name of the people. Azerbaijan and the international community should understand that Nagorno-Karabakh is a

political and economic independent entity," he said. He called Azerbaijan's protests "a problematic stance which hurts the negotiating process."

The election was being held to replace Robert Kocharyan, the main architect of the fight against Azerbaijan. He was first made head of state in 1994, elected president in 1996, then named Prime Minister of Armenia proper in March this year.

Mr. Ghukasyan's candidacy has received the support of the strongly nationalist Dashnaktsutyun Party, which was banned in Armenia by President Lev Ter-Petrosyan who dubbed it a "terrorist" organisation.

However, Mr. Ghukasyan denied he would have difficult relations with Karabakh's backers in Armenia, saying: "Despite this party having problems with the Armenian authorities, I cooperate with everybody. To me someone's party affiliation has no importance if he is a patriot and thinks about his country."

Ardak Sarkisyan, a 47-year-old resident of Stepanakert, said he would vote for Mr. Ghukasyan because "he has already worked a long time as foreign minister and has gained a great deal of diplomatic experience."

"I will vote for Mr. Ghukasyan," said student Nina Akacharyan. "He is a motivated person and knows what the Karabakh people want. He heads the delegation to the talks and he is known very well both in Azerbaijan and among the mediators."

Grigory Ogandzhanyan, chairman of the Electoral Commission, said there were 40 international observers, including from Armenia, France, Georgia, Germany, Russia and Switzerland.

He said they were independent observers, or representatives from non-governmental organisations.

The Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe was invited, but was "unlikely to come," he said.

To win, a candidate must get more than 50 per cent of the vote.

## China heaps praise on Jiang ahead of congress

BEIJING (R) — China has praised President Jiang Zemin ahead of a crucial Communist Party congress, crediting the top leader with steering the nation into its best period in history but citing problems such as graft and unemployment.

Mr. Jiang, who is also chairman of the ruling Communist Party, had led the nation into stability and prosperity since he took over the reins from late paramount leader Deng Xiaoping, who died last February, Xinhua said in an overnight commentary.

"China's reform and opening-up drive entered a crucial period following Deng's death, with a number of deep-rooted contradictions surfacing," Xinhua said.

However, Mr. Jiang and the party had overcome the difficulties, it said without elaborating on the contradictions.

Mr. Jiang's achievement

had "fully displayed the ability of China's collective leadership to exercise effective control over the overall situation," Xinhua quoted a political analyst in Beijing as saying.

A galloping economy, ethnic unity and social stability were some of the feathers in Mr. Jiang's cap since he took over from Deng, but the new leadership would have to tackle many other thorny issues, Xinhua quoted analysts as saying.

"Unemployment, the low efficiency of the national economy as a whole and corruption are posing the most serious challenges," Xinhua quoted one political analyst as saying.

China's official urban jobless rate was three per cent at the end of 1996, but officials have said the actual figure was closer to eight per cent and is set to climb in the next few years as the ailing state sector sheds millions of redundant workers.

Many Chinese have complained that Deng's economic reforms have resulted in rampant official corruption and Mr. Jiang, fearing graft could threaten the party's grip on power, has moved to crack down on officials who barter political pull for economic gain.

Xinhua heaped praise on Mr. Jiang, hand-picked as Deng's heir, as improving on the legacy of his mentor, whose market-style reforms propelled China from socialist backwater to economic powerhouse.

"The fact that China is in the midst of its best period in history indicates that the Communist Party of China's collective leadership with Mr. Jiang Zemin at the core has established firm and strong leadership over the party and the country," it said.

Xinhua's comments came less than two weeks before the start of the party's 15th congress, to be held on

Sept. 12 and in which China's political elite are expected to reshuffle their ranks and chart new policies for the world's largest country.

Mr. Jiang, 70, has moved to shore up his position as Deng's heir and fend off leftist opposition to China's capitalist-style reforms, and state media frequently urges the nation to rally behind Mr. Jiang as the core of the party leadership.

Party sources have said the congress, the first meeting in nearly two decades without Deng, is set not only to endorse Deng's economic reforms but to push for an even faster pace of change.

In the run-up to the meeting, Mr. Jiang has called for greater vigilance against leftist and analysts say he plans to push through a blueprint for bold but belated reforms that could force thousands of flagging state firms toward bankruptcy.





Japanese schoolchildren wear protective headgear, both flameproof and waterproof, as they assemble in an anti-earthquake drill at a Tokyo elementary school on Disaster Prevention Day Monday. The day marks the anniversary of the 1923 great Kanto earthquake which left some 140,000 dead and about 100,000 injured (Reuter photo)

## Tokyo holds annual earthquake drill

TOKYO (R) — Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto donned a khaki uniform and took the lead Monday as some 7.5 million people in Tokyo and surrounding regions held annual earthquake drills.

The drills, held every year on the anniversary of the deadly 1923 great Kanto earthquake, assume a major quake has hit the Tokyo metropolitan area, home to 12 million people.

Japan, where thousands of minor tremors occur daily and several big earthquakes hit every year, has beefed up disaster preparation and response since an earthquake devastated the west-

ern city of Kobe in January, 1995, killing 6,000 people.

A slow central government response to the Kobe earthquake and its resulting fires, and poor communication between Tokyo and the affected regional governments, were cited by experts as adding to the loss of life and increased property damage.

To overcome such glitches, Monday's drills focused on speedy information gathering, with the prime minister's official residence serving as the crisis management centre.

After morning warnings by seismic experts of irregular movements in the Earth's crust along the volcanic zone off the Pacific Coast southeast of the capital, Mr. Hashimoto held a mock news conference to inform his nation that disaster had struck at noon.

It was at 11:58 a.m. on Sept. 1, 1923, that the great Kanto earthquake struck, killing more than 140,000 in Tokyo and its vicinity. Kanto is the region of eastern Japan surrounding the capital.

"Roads, railroads and other public facilities are damaged, and fires have broken out in a number of places. Buildings have collapsed over a wide area and there are dead or missing," said Mr. Hashimoto, dressed in a khaki uniform.

He then boarded a helicopter to join mock rescues and other drills in the nearby port city of Yokohama, assumed to be badly damaged by the quake.

In schools throughout Japan, most of which reopened Monday after summer recess, children practised evacuating classrooms or ducking under their desks.

The drills are expected to involve 12 million people — one-tenth of Japan's population — by the end of disaster prevention week Friday.

## Medieval monks used anaesthetics—Scottish scientists

EDINBURGH (R) — Scientists searching the site of a medieval hospital south of Edinburgh said Sunday they had found evidence that monks who ran it used crude anaesthetics and disinfectants hundreds of years before they became generally known.

Digging uncovered blood pits, surgical waste and narcotics used to stupefy casualties from more than 80 armies that fought over the bleak area around Soutra Hill for hundreds of years.

Recent excavations re-

vealed two surgical wards where amputations were performed with crude instruments on patients anaesthetised with opium and hemlock. Traces of an analgesic ointment made of opium and lard and a disinfectant ointment laced with arsenic were also found.

Dr. Brian Moffat, leader of the team working on the site for nearly 12 years, said DNA samples showed epidemics and diseases such as anthrax were prevalent in the area.

Blood-stained instruments had been discovered, as had a blood pit where the results of more than 1,500 blood-letting operations had been dumped.

Dr. Moffat said remains of stunted still-born infants found in a secret burial place indicated illegal abortions, even though religious rules forbade monks from treating pregnant women or having anything to do with childbirth.

The hospital was founded by Augustinian monks in 1165 and flourished for nearly 400 years until the dissolution of the monasteries.

It sat just off the main north-south route in a desolate, windswept area about 32 kilometres south of the Scottish capital where thousands of men and horses died in bitter medieval battles.

According to contemporary records, Soutra was the largest hospital north of the English city of York. It had immense walls and covered a vast area but the stones were carried off to build houses and farms and only a burial chapel remains.

## Scientists find new sub-atomic particle

WASHINGTON (R) — Physicists said Monday they had found evidence of a new kind of subatomic particle, which they said helped validate the core theory of modern physics.

The new particle, an exotic meson, was found after five years of slamming atoms together in a particle accelerator, they reported in the journal *Physical Review Letters*.

"To find evidence of a particle that has never been detected before, and one that's so important to our understanding of elementary physics, is hugely satisfying," said Suh-Urk Ching of Brookhaven National Laboratory in upstate New York, who worked on the project.

The experiment, known as E852, involved hitting liquid hydrogen with an 18-billion-electron-volt particle beam in a multi-particle spectrometer.

"This is a very important observation," said Ted Barnes of the University of Tennessee and Oak Ridge National Laboratory, who commented on the findings.

Theorists have predicted the existence of exotic hybrid mesons, which contain both quarks and gluons, since the late 1970s, but E852 may have found the "smoking gun" for their existence. It's a benchmark that will set the mathematical scales for future experimentation and study.

Sub-atomic particles known as baryons and mesons are made up of even smaller bits called quarks and antiquarks. They are held together by gluons.

They are too small to actually see, so scientists test their existence by using the particle accelerators.

## Hong Kong's Tung steps out on diplomatic forays

HONG KONG (R) — Hong Kong's leader Tung Chee-hwa, in office for two months, steps out this week on a global diplomatic offensive to woo friends in Asia, North America, Europe.

Mr. Tung's first foray Wednesday will be to Malaysia and Singapore, which share Hong Kong's ex-British colonial heritage.

Later in the month he will visit the United States to try to convince President Bill Clinton and congressional leaders that Hong Kong has remained a free and open international city since it became a quasi-autonomous capitalist region of China on July 1.

Early next month, Mr. Tung is scheduled to make a similar trip to Japan, then to Europe for his first visit to Hong Kong's former colonial master, Britain, and to the European Union in Brussels to seek visa concessions for Hong Kong residents.

On the cards soon afterwards, diplomats said, was a joint visit to Canada with China's President Jiang Zemin for a summit of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Forum.

The Beijing-appointed Tung's first two months in office have been marked by an atmosphere of all change but no change.

No dramatic political upheavals have taken place. Diplomatic squabbles between Britain and China have petered out.

Mr. Tung's popularity has climbed steadily in the polls to an 82 per cent approval rating, ahead of all party political figures.

But his government is far less popular in the polls than the former colonial administration of then Governor Chris Patten.

Savaged by the media before the handover, Mr. Tung still gets an uncompromising press because of his steps to slash democracy and labour rights and to introduce an election law that would sideline pro-democracy parties.

But this will not bother his discussion partners in Malaysia and Singapore, staunch defenders of "Asian values" and no friends of the free press or full-blown democracy.

They will be preoccupied with the South East Asian financial markets crisis that has seen regional currencies and shares take a dramatic nosedive after speculative attacks in recent weeks.

Hong Kong's concern for the crisis was underlined when it coughed up \$1 billion for a Thai financial rescue package.

On Mr. Tung's first stop in Kuala Lumpur, he will meet Prime Minister Mahathir Muhammad, who lashed out at the West and at U.S. financier George Soros last month, accusing them of conspiring to cause South East Asia's markets crisis.

Mr. Soros has denied this.

Mr. Tung has endorsed Mr. Mahathir's call to change a United Nations human rights declaration to allow more inputs from developing nations. "I am sympathetic to this argument. I really am," Mr. Tung said recently.

Mr. Tung will move on to Singapore Thursday to meet Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong and elder statesman

Lee Kuan Yew, who he has often listed as one of his most admired leaders.

Mr. Tung has expressed approval of Singapore's noted social security schemes, education facilities and government-provided housing estates, which he plans to tour during his visit.

Singapore has been eyed by people in Hong Kong either as a potential rival where companies might shift their operations if Hong Kong went badly awry after the handover, or as a post-colonial development model to follow.

Singapore's consul-general here, Chan Heng-Wing, however, said that despite Mr. Tung's admiration for Mr. Lee, Mr. Tung was not trying to reshape his territory on Singapore lines.

"The political imperatives of the two cities are quite different. We are a multi-racial city and a multi-racial population. I think it's not so easy to make such a comparison," Mr. Chan told a Hong Kong newspaper last week-end.

## Bosnian hardliners defy Plavsic

BANJA LUKA, Bosnia (R) — Bosnian Serb hardliners held on to key police stations in the northeast and east and President Biljana Plavsic said infiltrators from Yugoslavia were helping them.

Western officials said Sunday that nationalist hardliners opposed to Ms. Plavsic remained in control of police forces in the contested towns of Bijeljina and Brcko, where an angry mob attacked U.S. soldiers last week, injuring two.

The soldiers, part of the NATO-led Stabilisation Force (SFOR) in Bosnia, had been trying to install officers sympathetic to Ms. Plavsic to run the Brcko police station, but were taken by surprise by an angry mob throwing petrol bombs and bricks.

Ms. Plavsic, speaking to reporters after a meeting with U.S. diplomat Robert Farrand, said criminals had been bussed in from neighbouring Yugoslavia for the riot in Brcko.

"To take such irresponsible action there, driving in criminals from Yugoslavia ... and then put women and children up front as shields

is insane and amoral for any normal man," said Ms. Plavsic, who did not identify who she thought was responsible.

Ms. Plavsic, who has Western support, is locked in a struggle for control of Bosnian Serb state institutions with the hardliners loyal to indicted war criminal and former Bosnian Serb President Radovan Karadzic.

Mr. Farrand, the Western-appointed supervisor for Brcko, a town whose fate was left open under the Dayton Peace Accords ending the Bosnian war, also said outsiders were involved but stopped short of naming a country.

"We are absolutely certain that those who organised this, those who took part in this contrived violence, were from outside Brcko," he said after talks with Ms. Plavsic in her Banja Luka headquarters.

"When I say outsiders, I'm not only talking about persons from outside Brcko, I'm talking outside Bosnia-Herzegovina. By that, I mean persons from another country."

Asked if he was referring

to Yugoslavia, he said: "Draw your own conclusions."

Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, chief patron of the Bosnian Serbs, has been under severe pressure from the international community, and the U.S. in particular, to back Ms. Plavsic but so far has refused to do so.

The Western officials familiar with the situation in the east said hardliners were maintaining roadblocks in a 500 square metre area around the main police station in Bijeljina, another town where SFOR troops tried to change the police command.

The Karadzic loyalists were having to rely on strong-arm tactics to retain their authority in towns to the northeast and eastern areas of Serb territory, the officials said.

The officials said young men had been bussed into Bijeljina last week to help man roadblocks against NATO peacekeeping troops.

U.N. police monitors had resumed patrolling in Brcko, where their offices were ransacked in the riots and more than 20 vehicles

destroyed.

But international organisations were keeping a low profile and had evacuated their personnel after the violence that erupted last week.

Brcko is located at a bottleneck between the eastern and western parts of Serb-held Bosnia and its fate was so sensitive it was left unresolved at the Dayton peace conference in 1995.

Hardliners loyal to Mr. Karadzic have been fighting to retain influence over the police, state television and the army and have been irked by Western controls and supervision that will be in place for municipal elections in two weeks' time.

Aleksa Buha, the acting president of the hardliners' SDS party, said in Brcko that the party "will not take part in the elections unless the electoral regulations and conditions are changed," a report by the hardliner-controlled Serbian Republic News Agency said.

He accused the international community of double standards in the registration of voters and said electoral regulations had been tailored and rewritten.

## Taiwan's new premier ready for talks with China

TAIPEI (AFP) — Taiwan's newly inaugurated Premier Vincent Siew said Monday he was ready to reopen talks with Beijing to improve strained relations between the two rival nations.

Mr. Siew, who was officially appointed Thursday, called for patience, tolerance and goodwill between the two longtime rivals.

He said Taipei was ready to negotiate with Beijing whenever China decided to resume top-level talks, which were suspended in mid-1995 after the Taiwan's President Lee Teng-hui made a trip to the United States.

"If the two sides of the Taiwan Strait would exercise patience and tolerance, based on sincerity and goodwill, the development of bilateral relations would be more stable and positive," Mr. Siew told a press conference after his cabinet was sworn in here Monday.

He also called for an exchange of visits by top leaders between Taipei and Beijing "under the principles of dignity and respect" to create a harmonious climate across the Taiwan Strait.

The former lawmaker and economics minister urged Beijing to stop isolating Taiwan in the international community, saying a more relaxed attitude would lead to favourable conditions for eventual reunification.

"Our pragmatic foreign policy does not mean to challenge China, but a must for continued national development, for survival," Mr. Siew said.

The activities of a vital country like Taiwan — the world's 19th largest economic power and 14th biggest trading nation — should not be wrongly interpreted as moves promoting "one China, one Taiwan" or "two Chinas," he said.

But Mr. Siew said he still had to ask leading local enterprises to reevaluate their investment projects in the mainland "to avoid political risks."

"The cross-strait political climate has been freezing but business exchanges have been boiling ... investors are facing higher risks under such a situation," he said.

Authorities here have urged big firms to hold back their major investment plans in China, after Beijing staged military exercises near Taiwan in 1995.

Beijing also suspended bilateral talks at the same time in protest at Lee's visit to the U.S., accusing him of promoting independence for the island.

## South Korean ruling party seeks amnesty for Chun, Roh

SEOUL (R) — South Korea's ruling party will seek an amnesty for former Presidents Chun Doo-hwan and Roh Tae-woo, who were jailed for mutiny, treason and corruption, a party spokesman said Monday.

The Supreme Court in April upheld a lower appeals court decision last December to commute Mr. Chun's death sentence to life in jail and Mr. Roh's twenty-two-and-a-half-year prison term to 17 years for their roles in a 1979 coup and an army massacre in 1980.

Lee Hoi-Chang, candidate of the ruling New Korea Party for presidential elections in December, will formally ask President Kim Young-Sam Thursday to grant an amnesty for Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh soon, he said.

"The move is part of the party's efforts to promote grand unity," he said.

Party officials said Mr. Lee was expected to ask Mr. Kim to announce a clemency order for the former presidents within two weeks.

Political analysts said Mr. Lee was trying to boost his chances at December presidential elections by appealing

to conservatives as he battled a controversy involving his two sons, who were exempted from a mandatory 30-month military service on grounds that they were underweight.

Mr. Lee's popularity has plunged since opposition parties alleged late in July that the sons deliberately lost weight to avoid the service. Mr. Lee has denied the allegation.

Mr. Lee, a former Supreme Court judge, had been widely tipped to win in the elections but recent popularity polls have shown Mr. Lee is now lagging behind Kim Dae-Jung, candidate for the main opposition National Congress for New Politics.

One survey published by the leading Dong-A Ilbo newspaper showed Mr. Kim won support from 24.8 per cent of 2,200 South Koreans polled in the past week, while Mr. Lee secured 16.2 per cent. Nearly 41 per cent polled were undecided.

The remainder backed candidates of two minor opposition party candidates — former Prime Minister Kim Jong-Pil and Seoul

Mayor Cho Soon.

Another newspaper poll showed Kim Dae-Jung leading with 32.0 per cent support against Mr. Lee's 24.4 per cent.

Mr. Kim Dae-Jung, who has been trying to erase an image as a radical, said last week he would also support an amnesty for Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh.

A group of South Korean lawyers Monday issued a statement, "strongly opposing" amnesty for Mr. Chun and Mr. Roh.

"Politicians should stop the unprincipled attempt to grant amnesty for the two convicted former presidents simply to gain votes," it said.

The sentences against the ex-presidents relate to a coup that thrust then army General Chun to power and an army massacre in the southwestern city of Kwangju that crushed democratic opposition and left deep scars on the nation.

They were also convicted in last year's "trial of the century" of amassing hundreds of millions of dollars in slush funds from businessmen while in office.

## Hollywood joins outcry over paparazzi following Diana death

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — Hollywood celebrities joined the outcry Sunday over paparazzi photographers that some blamed for the death of Britain's Princess Diana in a Paris car crash.

The 36-year-old Princess of Wales, millionaire Dodi Al Fayed, 41, and their driver were killed when their speeding car hit a concrete pillar and careened off a Paris tunnel as they were trying to shake photographers on motorcycle.

Film star Tom Cruise said in a telephone call to CNN, "I've actually been in that same tunnel being chased by paparazzi, and they run lights and chase you and harass you the whole time and it happens all over the world."

Hollywood publicist Michael Levine meanwhile pledged to lead an effort to change laws to appropriately punish what he called "the criminal behavior of stalking tabloid journalists."

"What these photographers did in Paris ... was to contribute to murder," said Mr. Levine.

Mr. Levine, who once represented Hollywood producer Fayed and celebrities including Michael Jackson, expressed outrage at the "totally unnecessary loss of innocent life."

"I have witnessed the behavior of the tabloids go from obnoxious to criminal in the last few years," said Mr. Levine. "I'm frankly surprised that something like this didn't happen sooner."

"This problem cries out for an economic in addition to a criminal solution," said Mr. Levine. "If media owners understand that new laws could hold them responsible for their agents' gross behavior, things will change pronto."

Los Angeles psychologist Robert Buterworth said the public's insatiable appetite for celebrity coverage may ultimately be responsible for photographers' acts of excess and the ensuing tragic incidents.

"We have become a society of voyeurs, gobbling up as much scandal as we are fed," he said. "It is time to kick this perverted habit before others are killed."

Paparazzi have long plagued celebrities in Hollywood and around the world. Many stars

said they had to take evasive action to protect their privacy.

Actor Alec Baldwin was cleared of assault charges by a sympathetic jury after he decked a photographer stalking him and his wife Kim Basinger as they were returning last year from the hospital with their newborn to their home.

The late Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis had to go to court to get a restraining order to keep a particularly persistent photographer outside a certain distance from her.

When Madonna gave birth, photographers stalked the hospital and kept a round-the-clock vigil at her Los Angeles home hoping to get what was called the first "million dollar" picture of the baby.

Named after a photographer character in Fellini's 1960 film, *La Dolce Vita*, the paparazzi profession is sometimes lucrative, as witnessed by the estimated \$5 million pocketed by Italian photographer Mario Brena for his pictures of Diana kissing Fayed several weeks ago.

But editors of tabloids scrambled for the moral high ground following the tragedy.

Stephen Coz, editor of the National Enquirer, one of the most popular U.S. tabloids, called for a boycott of pictures by photographers who were following the car that crashed in Paris and killed Diana, and said the photos were being offered for \$1 million.

"There's a difference between observing celebrities and burning them down," Mr. Coz told NBC Television. "It's something that the Enquirer takes a strong stance against. We had nothing to do with those motorcycle-chasing paparazzi, and the world press should not buy these photos."

Mr. Coz blamed the events on a small contingent of what he called "stalkarazzi," who should be shunned by all media.

Britain's best selling Sunday tabloid, the News Of The World, said it had refused to buy photos of Diana trapped in the mangled limousine after the crash.

Seven photographers in Paris were detained for questioning in connection with their role in the incident.



**Kim Abu Jaber**  
Amman



# British press under pressure after Princess Diana's death

LONDON (AFP) — After the initial shock reaction to the death of Princess Diana, Wales, allegedly pursued by a pack of press photographers, newspapers and politicians were split Monday on calls for a new privacy law.

Paris newspapers, vilified by many for their alleged role in her demise, still oppose widespread calls for a new privacy law to protect celebrities from the press.

Monday, police were still holding seven photographers, six French and one Macedonian, who could face the French equivalent of manslaughter charges if investigations show they were responsible for the crash in which Diana's lover, Dodi Fayed and the car's driver also died.

But in Britain, home of one of the world's strongest and most aggressive media, most newspapers advised caution against rash action restricting press freedom, while admitting they expected an anti-media backlash and understood

"emotional outbursts."

Foreign Secretary Robin Cook, recently the subject of press attention following his split from his wife, said Monday in Singapore that newspaper editors should reconsider their code of ethics following Sunday's death.

"I said yesterday that there will have to be in the future questions raised about the extent to which the press handling of Princess Diana may have contributed to this tragedy," he told a press conference Monday.

"I am surprised that the questions are being asked of politicians. In the first instance, the questions have to be asked of journalists and editors. They have to consider their recent behaviour and to what extent that may have contributed to this tragedy. We will watch with interest what their answers are before we decide what we might do," he said.

Lord Wakeham, president of the self-appointed Press Complaints Commission which attempts to establish guidelines for Britain's press conduct, said he was going to open an investigation on the problems posed by international paparazzi.

"We can — we must — think very seriously about the problems caused by international paparazzi photographers, which the accident has so dreadfully highlighted," he said.

Diana, in her last interview last week called the British press "ferocious" in its pursuit of her and a feeling that it is the press that caused her death led to many attacks Sunday and Monday.

A legal limitation on press intrusions into people's private lives is already planned by the new Labour government which has agreed to enshrine in British law the European Convention on Human Rights.

The government has also been under pressure to introduce privacy laws, tied to a freedom of information act.

Press owners, however,

## Jewish-Arab ring involved in credit card fraud

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Putting their enmity aside, a group of Palestinians and Jewish settlers in the West Bank worked a credit card scam in which hundreds of thousands of dollars were charged to stolen cards, Israeli police announced Monday.

About 30 people have been arrested in the case which also involves five Palestinians who live in the U.S., said police spokesman Ofer Sivan.

The gang, led by Wael Assaf, a 37-year-old Palestinian from the West Bank village of Bidya, bought credit cards from down-and-out tourists travelling in Israel and the U.S. for large sums of money, and then ran up charges on the cards before the tourists reported them lost or stolen from their home countries, Mr. Sivan said.

The gang then sold the purchased goods on the street.

Mr. Sivan said a number of Palestinian and Jewish merchants knowingly allowed the

gang to use the stolen cards at their shops in exchange for pay-offs. Each charge would be kept to a \$145 limit to avoid the necessary phone calls for purchase approvals from the credit card companies, Mr. Sivan said.

Most of the Palestinian gang members have already been tried and sentenced in an Israeli military court in the West Bank, Mr. Sivan said.

Assaf was sentenced to four years in jail and ordered to pay a fine of \$30,000. His deputy, Ibrahim Mansour from the West Bank town of Qalqilia, was sentenced to two years and fined \$4,000. Among those arrested is a 23-year-old resident of the Jewish West Bank settlement of Ariel who ran up thousands of dollars in charges on a card he bought from Assaf.

Mr. Sivan said the investigation is still under way and also targets five relatives of Assaf who live in the U.S. Mr. Sivan said two are Assaf's brothers and two are his cousins.

## German federal state halts expulsion of Algerians

KIEL (AFP) — The German state of Schleswig-Holstein will no longer expel Algerian nationals as illegal immigrants, after the latest wave of killings in the North African country. Regional Interior Minister Ekkehard Wienholtz announced.

Mr. Wienholtz said the decision was motivated by a "frightening" rise in the number of brutal attacks against civilians and a risk that Algerians would increasingly become victims of a civil war between Islamists and government forces.

The minister called on Federal Interior Minister Manfred Kanther and his colleagues in Germany's other 15 states to decide whether or not expulsions should be stopped nationwide.

Until such a decision is made Schleswig-Holstein will not expel Algerians, he said.

At the end of last year, 156 Algerian nationals were under the threat of expulsion from Schleswig-Holstein and eight Algerians were expelled from the north German state during the first quarter of 1997.

Algeria has been wracked by violence since the military intervened in January 1992 to cancel elections the Islamic Salvation Front were poised to win.

Western diplomats put the death toll at around 60,000, while Algerian rights groups say many more have died, mainly civilians.

## Israelis demonstrate outside Yigal's home

Here, only nine commandments are taught — protesters

HERZILYA (AP) — At the start of the school year Monday, Israelis protested outside the kindergarten run by the mother of Yitzhak Rabin's assassin, accusing her of condoning murder. Standing outside the private kindergarten Geula Amir runs from her home, a small group of protesters held signs that read "here, only nine commandments are taught," Israel Radio

said.

Geula Amir was not immediately available for comment. Her husband, Shlomo, confirmed the demonstration took place.

Last week, Israel army radio reported that enrollment was up at Ms. Amir's kindergarten.

The Amirs' son, Yigal, shot and killed the prime minister in November 1995 at a peace rally in Tel Aviv in order to put

(Continued from page 1)

an end to Rabin's peace-making with the Arabs.

In the days after the assassination, Ms. Amir denounced her son on Israeli TV. However, her attitude turned more protective during his trial last spring.

Last week, Herzilya Mayor Eli Landau urged residents to stop sending their children to the kindergarten run by "the mother of the murderer."

Protests outside the Amir home have been rare since the killing though a firebomb was thrown at the home last September. No one was injured but a section of the kindergarten was burned down.

Yigal Amir is serving a life sentence for assassinating Rabin. His brother Hagai is serving 12 years for his role in plotting the murder.

the palace which has been under growing pressure to give Diana a state funeral.

Mr. Blair had publicly urged that there be a service to allow for maximum public participation. But state funerals are usually for sovereigns alone.

However, observers here were already beginning to compare the event with the funeral of wartime leader Winston Churchill in 1965, or the burial in 1979 of Lord Mountbatten, whose murder at the hands of the IRA shocked Britain.

There will be no lying-in-state for the princess, the royal household said.

At the request of the royal family and Diana, the coffin will lie privately in the Chapel Royal in St. James's Palace, the home of Prince Charles, the heir to the British throne from whom Diana was divorced last summer after a 15-year marriage.

It will be carried in procession from there to Westminster Abbey for the funeral.

No details were announced Monday of the form of the funeral procession from St. James's Palace to the Abbey.

But its route will take it through the major public arteries of the British capital, including The Mall, Horse Guards' Parade and Whitehall.

In the abbey, the coffin will be placed on a catafalque — a temporary tomb-like structure — for the service which will be attended by the entire royal family.

Afterwards, it will be taken by road to Althorp — the home of the Spencers, Diana's family, in Northamptonshire, around 100 kilometres northwest of London.

Not all members of the

royal family will attend the private burial there, however.

Flags will be flown at half-mast across Britain up to and including the day of the funeral.

The 36-year-old princess and her friend Dodi Fayed, 42, died Sunday in a horrific car crash in Paris, while pursued by paparazzi.

Diana's tragic death has plunged the nation into mourning and created shockwaves around the world, in a way that has not been seen since the assassination of U.S. President John F. Kennedy 34 years ago.

## Ritz security chief was drunk driving at 196 kph — officials

(Continued from page 1)

which is owned by Dodi's father, Mohammed Fayed, who also owns the Harrods Department Store in London. The paper named the driver as Henri Paul.

Europe 1 radio also reported Monday that Paul was not Fayed's regular driver, who had left earlier in another vehicle as a decoy to throw photographers off the trail.

Meanwhile, Britons besieged the capital's royal palaces to pay a last homage to their adored princess, whose tragic death plunged the nation into shock and mourning.

Crowds gathered before the royal palaces of Buckingham, Saint James, and Kensington, leaving bouquets of flowers and inscriptions that piled up in front of the palace gates.

Londoners, and some tourists, also left flowers or condolence messages at the famous Harrods Department Store.

"I chose Harrods because it's a place which stands for both of them, Diana and Dodi," one person said.

In France, investigators were looking at about 20 rolls of film confiscated from the seven photographers in police custody for questioning. The seven were detained Sunday after witnesses said they saw photographers on motorcycles swarm the car just before it crashed.

"This investigation will determine more particularly the role that these people may have played in the genesis of the accident," the Paris prosecutor's office said in a brief statement

issued Sunday.

Police sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the film was taken from seven free-lance photographers working mainly for the Sigma, Gamma and Sipa agencies according to the daily Le Monde.

Police were developing it as possible evidence.

Investigators also went to the Paris offices of a half-dozen press photo agencies Sunday and asked the directors to make available negatives and slides of pictures taken of the crash scene.

The Mercedes car in which the couple were travelling hit a wall of an underpass near the Alma Bridge as it was being chased by a group of photographers eager to snap pictures of them.

French prosecutors are set to appoint a judge to scale-up a criminal probe into the paparazzi's role in the car crash which killed the British princess and Dodi, judicial sources said Monday.

The appointment, which would elevate the investigation from a straightforward police probe, could be announced early Tuesday, the sources said.

Under French law, the appointment of a judge is the next step towards possible indictments in the case. The detained photographers can only be held for 48 hours, until Tuesday morning, without being charged.

They are being questioned over their role in causing the high-speed crash. Even if they are cleared of any direct role in the crash, France has a "Good Samaritan" law that

(Continued from page 1)

be built next to built-up areas in order to prevent settlements from spreading out over a large territory.

To the past, Israel would sometimes begin construction of a new neighbourhood which was in fact several miles away from an existing settlement. With such a practice, Israel could say it is sticking to its promise not to build new settlements, while in fact cementing control over a large tract of land.

Israel would not be expected to agree to the U.S. compromise until the Palestinians have pledged to crack down on Islamists, Haaretz said.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's senior adviser, David Bar-Ilan, refused comment

Monday on the Haaretz story.

However, he said no progress would be made on any issue, until the Palestinians crushed Islamist groups.

"Once this is taken care of, we are willing to discuss any issue," Mr. Bar-Ilan told the Associated Press.

In another point of dispute, Mr. Netanyahu Monday rejected Palestinian demands to turn over control of territory in rural areas of the West Bank by next week.

"We cannot be asked to pay and pay when the Palestinians are not fulfilling their side of the agreements," Mr. Netanyahu told Israeli army radio. "What are we going to get in the future? More promises to fulfill obligations that they already promised to fulfill before? And we should give new concessions?"

Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat has said the PNA was fulfilling its security obligations and that a Sept. 7 deadline for the further withdrawal is clearly understood from the Israel-Palestinian agreements.

Under the accords, Israel has already withdrawn from two-thirds of Gaza and one-third of the West Bank. The agreements commit Israel to making three unspecified "further withdrawals" from the West Bank by mid-1998.

Regarding the closure, Mr. Netanyahu said Monday it would be eased in stages, "according to the security situation and with the thought of easing life for the Palestinians as much as possible."

The Palestinian informa-

tion minister, Yasser Abed Rabbo, said the step was not enough. "To give passage to a few people is like putting cosmetics on a truly ugly face," he said.

The PNA has estimated that each day of closure cost the Palestinian economy \$8 million in lost wages and trade. The World Bank put the losses at between \$4 million and \$6 million.

In retaliation for the bombing, Israel also withheld millions of dollars in tax refunds owed to the PNA. Two weeks ago, Israel released some \$12 million, or about 30 per cent of what it said it owed at the time.

Before the latest closure was imposed, some 100,000 Palestinian labourers worked in Israel.

## Israel arrests 7 brothers in bombing investigation

(Continued from page 1)

laboratory operated by the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas).

Although Israeli investigators have yet to identify the two suicide bombers who carried out the attack, they blame Hamas for the operation.

Palestinian police have also arrested more than 20 Islamists in the Bethlehem area since the bombing, but have announced no breakthroughs in the investigation.

Israeli officials have said they suspect that the leader of the Hamas military wing, Mohideen Sherif, is hiding in the Bethlehem area.

The Israeli army maintained a military blockade around Bethlehem until last week but lifted the clampdown under international pressure and following several days of clashes between protesters and Israeli troops in the city.

Strict restrictions remain in place on the travel of Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip into Israel.

### JOB CONNEXION'97

AN AMERICAN-JORDANIAN JOB FAIR

Let us be your WASTA

If you are a U.S. graduate looking for a new or better job, here is your chance to meet many of the top American companies in the region looking for someone like you.

**When:** Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup> 10 AM - 4 PM

**Where:** Amman, Jordan

**What to bring:** Several copies of your resume, a black and white photograph, and a letter of recommendation.

**Dress:** Business casual

**Other Services:**

- Interview skills training
- Resume writing and preparation
- Employment law and contract review
- Financial planning and budgeting
- Job search strategies
- Job placement assistance
- Job search materials
- Job search materials
- Job search materials

Sponsored by:

Organized by:

For more information, contact:

## Israel arrests 10 Palestinians after protest over land use by settlers

(Continued from page 1)

security apparatus in their work.

Angry truck drivers and owners said the PNA security services showed favouritism by allowing only certain truck owners to carry goods to Israel.

"We register to send our trucks to Israel but the Palestinian security intervene by stopping us and send their friends instead. We are now jobless," said a truck driver who declined to give his name.

Driver Abu Khaled Ham-moudeh, 38, said he was

prevented by security officials from sending his trucks loaded with goods to Israel for 14 months.

Truck drivers, who make a living out of transporting goods to and from Israel, have to be cleared by Palestinian security before their names are sent to

Israel for entry permits to the Jewish state.

Before the current closure was imposed on five-weeks ago following the Jerusalem bombing, 250 trucks were allowed into Israel.



## Jordan, Syria plan gradual exemption of customs duties

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Syria are planning to introduce a system whereby each side will gradually exempt the other from customs duty on exchanged goods in implementation of a 1975 trade agreement, Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Hani Mulki announced Monday.

He said that Damascus and Amman are taking a preliminary step by preparing a short list of goods exchanged by the two countries to exempt them from customs duty.

The minister added that the two sides are expected to reach a final agreement on exemptions during a meeting he will hold with Syria's minister of economy and foreign trade, Mohammad Al Imadi, in Cairo where the two ministers will be attending the meetings of the Arab Economic and Social Council on Sept. 7.

Dr. Mulki said that a long list of products are expected to be exempted from customs duty as provided for in the 1975 trade agreement.

In his statement, Dr. Mulki referred to "the investors' services unit" which was created by his ministry and indicated that it aims at promoting investments in Jordan and facilitating procedures for the

execution of projects.

After starting projects, investors normally face problems while dealing with different institutions and government departments and this unit was created specifically to address these problems, the minister said. By receiving complaints from investors and by acting on their behalf, the unit overcomes the difficulties through contacts with the various concerned departments, explained the minister.

"Simply put, this unit serves as a single go-between department which the investors deal with to guarantee solution for their problems," said the minister.

Referring to the merger of the ministry of industry, trade and supply with the ministry of supply, Dr. Mulki said the merger will be taking place in three stages and the process is being undertaken to cater to the requirements of the global economy and the economic restructuring programme in Jordan and to speed up the process of economic reform and trade liberalisation.

The merger, said the minister, will eventually reduce the number of the two ministries' affiliated departments, noting that a special law will be enacted about the merger in Parliament.

## World Bank prescribes infrastructure, education to fight poverty in India

WASHINGTON (AFP) — India must maintain steady economic growth and invest in infrastructure and education to fight poverty, which affects one-third of its population, the World Bank prescribed in a report. "Economic growth has accounted for the lion's share of poverty reduction in India over the last 50 years," said Zoubida Allaoui, a World Bank economist who authored a study titled "India: Achievements and Challenges in Reducing Poverty."

The percentage of poor in India fell from 50 per cent of the population in the 1950s to 35 per cent today, the World Bank said.

But while the percentage as dropped, India's population growth has led the number of people living in

poverty to grow from 164 million in 1951 to 312 million in 1993-1994.

The report claimed that if India — which has the largest number of poor people of any country — can maintain its six to seven per cent growth rates of the past three years poverty could drop to 6.3 per cent by 2005.

To reduce poverty, the World Bank report suggests India reinforce its free-market reforms and that it invest in health, education and infrastructure rather than subsidies.

While subsidies for the poor equal 11 per cent of the India's gross national product, only five per cent goes for health and education and four per cent for infrastructure, the bank said.

## Arabs urged to pursue reforms to boost income

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Arab states need to press ahead with economic reforms to tackle unemployment and improve living standards after years of stagnation by several members, according to their economic watchdog.

In its latest study on regional economies, the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF) said most of the Arab League's 22 members had achieved satisfactory results from reforms in some sectors.

"But it is noticed that they have not realised the aspired goals of the reforms," the Arab League's main financial institution said.

"Economic growth rates have remained relatively low. Compared to high population growth, the per capita income in the Arab countries remained almost unchanged while there was a deterioration in unemployment in some members," the study indicated.

The Abu Dhabi-based fund said most regional states were also still reeling under heavy debt, which is putting pressure on their balances of payments.

It said tackling those balances and liberalising fiscal policies could only be achieved through a "sustainable economic growth."

"Most Arab countries are striving to tackle all those issues through the reform programmes but the results are still generally lagging behind the aspired levels despite progress in some sectors," it said.

"This should prompt member states to push ahead with the efforts to restructure their economies with the help of the AMF and other institutions," the study urged.

Several Arab states have reported better economic performance from reform programmes but long-standing problems such as unemployment, foreign debt, balance of payment deficits and modest increases in incomes have persisted.

The reforms were spurred by chronic economic woes.

low oil prices and demands for economic restructuring by the International Monetary Fund.

But such plans in some members have come under fire by local officials and businessmen on the grounds they are slow and limited.

In the Gulf, most governments have announced plans to reform their oil-reliant economies but such programmes have only been partially implemented. Experts attribute this to a recovery in oil prices in the past two years.

The Arabs' main economic problems include the accumulation of foreign debt, which is estimated at more than \$150 billion, excluding military debt.

Most members are also suffering from high unemployment because of low growth rates. Such modest growth has also stifled improvement in the living standards as it is outpaced by the population growth of around four per cent.

"The economies of member states are still suffering from several aspects of weakness, making them vulnerable to external shocks," said the AMF, which has been involved in reform programmes in the region.

"They include mainly the limited productive base, lack of diversification in exports and the high indebtedness in several members," it added.

The report also criticised Arab states for failing to attract enough investment and maintaining restrictions on the private sector.

A recent report by another Arab League organisation, the Inter Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation, said the economies of most regional states recorded relatively high growth rates in 1996.

But it said this was made possible mainly by a surge in oil prices which boosted Arab oil income to a 13-year high of more than \$90 billion.

## Egypt signs contracts with Iraq to supply food

BAGHDAD (R) — An Egyptian state-run company has signed contracts with Iraq to supply foodstuffs under its oil-for-food deal with the United Nations, an official from the firm said Monday.

"We have signed with Iraq contracts worth \$15 million to bring vegetable oil, soap and detergents," Abdul Sattar Suleiman, deputy head of Egypt's Food Industries Holding Company told Reuters.

Mr. Suleiman said Egyptian firms were able to bring \$48 million worth of sugar, cooking oil and detergents to Iraq under the first phase of the U.N. programme.

He said the Egyptian businessmen were waiting for Iraq's Trade Minister Mohammad Mehdi Saleh to come back from Syria in order to conclude more deals.

REUTERS

REUTERS

### The Business of Information

Major Currencies & Cross Rates		Prices as at 30/08/97 18:22	
US Dollar	1.8462	0.6301	1.5189
DE Mark	0.5417	0.3410	0.2221
GB Sterling	1.5870	2.0315	2.2113
CHF Franc	0.6664	0.4742	0.4741
JP Yen	0.0085	1.5711	0.5357
CA Dollar	0.7119	1.3305	0.4995
IT Lira	0.0006	1.0251	0.3406
SE Krona	0.0002	0.6130	0.2028
FR Franc	0.1807	0.2967	0.1912

Middle Eastern Currencies		Prices as at 30/08/97 18:22	
US Dollar	0.7080	3.7506	0.3770
Jordan Dinar	1.4124	0.2888	0.1888
Saudi Riyal	0.2688	0.1888	0.1888
Bahraini Dinar	2.25	0.2747	0.1945
Qatar Dinar	0.2747	0.1945	0.1304
Kuwait Dinar	2.25	0.2747	0.1945
Emirate Dinar	0.2723	0.1928	0.1012
Lebanese Lira	0.15	0.4403	0.2436
Egyptian	0.2554	0.2092	1.1000

Energy	
Brent	18.98
WTI	20.14
Bonny	18.98
Dubai	17.98
UL Gas	217.00

Mid-East Currencies		Prices as at 30/08/97 18:22	
SA Riyal	0.2688	0.4028	0.1679
AE Dirham	0.2723	0.503	0.1715
KW Dinar	0.2720	0.0333	0.0631
BH Dinar	0.2720	0.0333	0.0631
CY Pound	1.8326	0.2637	1.1573

Metal Prices		Prices as at 30/08/97 18:22	
Gold (oz)	323	323.5	
Silver (oz)	4.22	4.24	
Platinum (oz)	413	413	
Al (3 Months)	1644	1648	
CU (3 Months)	2186	2190	
Zinc (3 Months)	1494	1499	
Lead (3 Months)	820	823	
Ni (3 Months)	6130	6130	

Currency Deposit Rates (Btd)		Prices as at 30/08/97 18:22	
USD	5.43	5.58	5.78
GBP	6.94	7.00	7.12
JPY	0.44	0.45	0.45
DEM	3.12	3.21	3.25
FRF	3.23	3.31	3.40
CHF	3.23	3.31	3.40
ITL	6.73	6.70	6.80

Main Equity Indices		Prices as at 30/08/97 18:22	
New York	DOW JONES	7984.52	-28.71
New York	S&P 500	938.86	-2.89
London	FT-SE 100	4983.7	25.3
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	19157.12	-94.11
Paris	CAC 40	2960.63	-18.64
Frankfurt	DAX	4233.67	30.24

Energy		Prices as at 30/08/97 18:22	
Coffee (c/b)	170	Spot	
Cocoa (\$/ton)	1696	Spot	
Sugar (\$/ton)	347.0	Spot	
Wheat (\$/ton)	143	Spot	
Soya (c/b)	22.02	Spot	
Yea (c/b)	185	Spot	
Barley (c/b)	0	Spot	
Rice (\$/ton)	450	Spot	

JOD Cross Rates		Prices as at 30/08/97 18:22	
US Dollar	0.708	0.710	
GB Sterling	1.1262	1.1318	
DE Mark	0.3808	0.3827	
CHF Franc	0.4639	0.4662	
FR Franc	0.113	0.1136	
JP Yen	0.5999	0.6029	
NL Guilder	0.3382	0.3399	
IT Lira	0.3912	0.3932	

Source: Central Bank of Jordan.

### THE Daily Crossword

ACROSS

1 Short biography

5 Restrict

10 Shed tears

14 Biblical name

15 Spud

16 Magnus of TV

17 Small dog

20 Greek letter

21 Beginning

22 Arm bones

23 "What's up, —?"

24 ABA member: abbr.

25 Powerful dog

33 Carriage

34 Laughs loudly

35 Singer Rawls

36 Chantilly, e.g.

37 South American plain

38 Highest point

39 Native American

40 Some

41 Europeans

42 Tempo

43 Large dog

46 Inspect

47 Rent

48 Page, the

51 "— With Love"

54 Govt. gp.

57 Small dog

60 Seed covering

61 Mother, at Elton

62 Water plant

63 TV part

64 Buttraces

65 Dieter's concern

DOWN

1 Coquette

2 Fateful date

3 Hack

4 Pierre's friend

5 Check the flow

6 Beats

7 "— Jury"

8 Undiluted

9 Numerical prefix

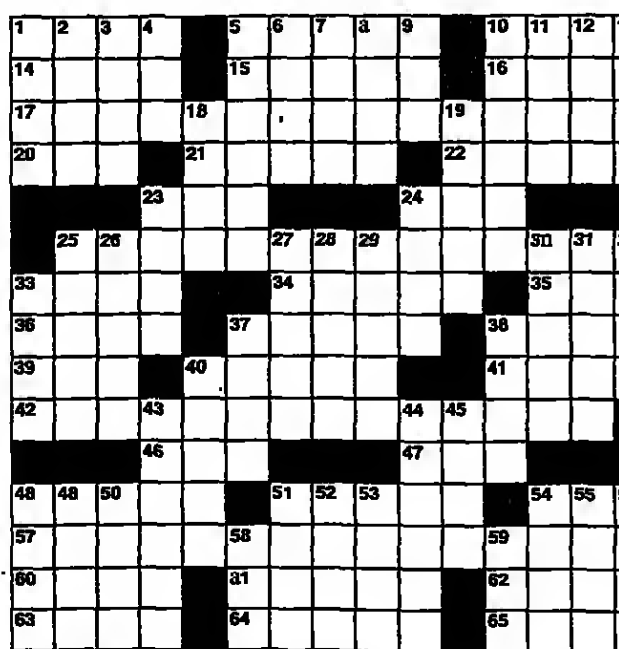
10 — do (rich)

11 Anthony or

12 Tower city

13 Hardy heroine

18 Imitates a dove



by Matthew Higgins

Puzzle solved:

S	P	A	T	R	I	S	E	R	A	G	A	R			
O	N	A	E	M	T	L	E	V	E	R	O				
F	L	E	U	R	D	E	L	I	S	E	N	N	A		
A	K	A	A	S	T	O	P	A	R	D	O				
S	A	R	T	R	E	S	T	E	R	N	A				
L	A	B	O	R	A	C	C	O	R	D	O				
L	A	B	O	R	O	A	S	T	S	M	I	O			
I	O	U	L	I	S	L	E	P	E	S	K				
R	E	T	O	O	L	S									
I	N	D	E	E	D										
S	E	Q	U	I	N										
P	L	U	S												
I	S	E													
N	E	S													

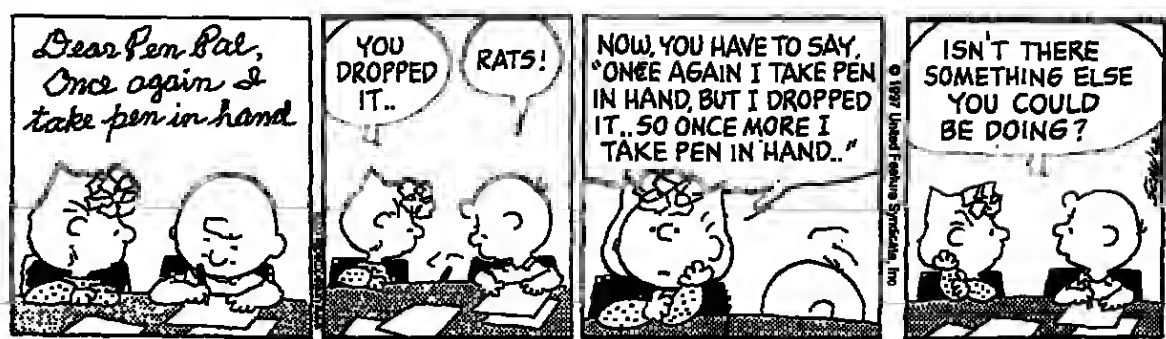
© 1997 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

All rights reserved.

19 Babe and Westheimer  
20 Coin  
21 Hairdo  
22 Really put out  
23 Indy entrant  
24 Outfit garments  
25 Split vigor  
26 Backslide  
27 Computing influence  
28 Bedouin, e.g.  
29 Singing pair  
30 Spark or fire end  
31 Sugar source  
32 Support  
33 — on thick (exaggerate)  
34 Courage  
35 Toolkit item  
36 Mister in Bonn  
37 Exam letters  
38 Israeli port

50 Labor  
51 Nicholas or Ivan  
52 "— be in England."  
53 Phase  
54 Cultivate  
55 Bright star  
56 Spirited steed  
57 Minor demon  
58 English filers: abbr.

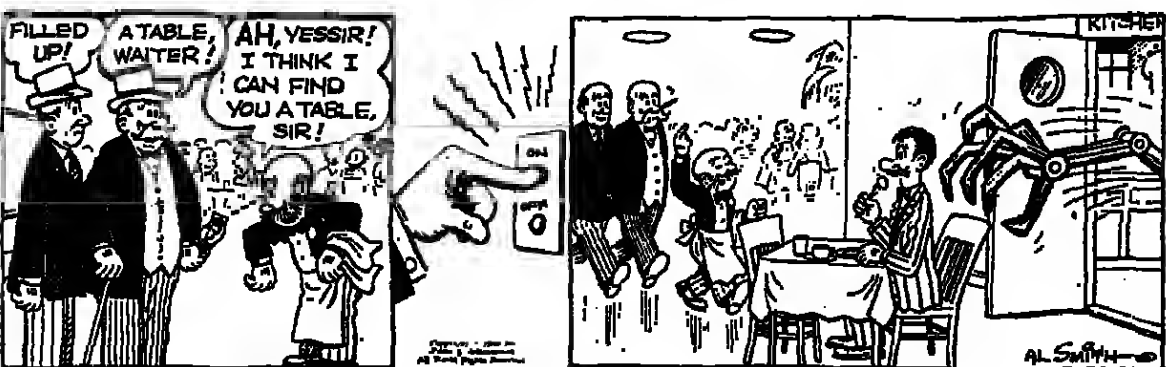
### Peanuts



### Andy Capp



### Mutt'n'Jeff



HOROSCOPE  
FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1997  
By Thomas S. Pierson,  
Astrologer, Carroll  
Righter Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Get small marketing tasks out of the way in the morning today so that after lunch you can take advantage of personal opportunities. Later this evening you can meet with close friends for recreational activities which will be fun.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Be persistent in attempting to solve a difficulty with a loved one. Employ the capable hands and advice of friends. Later this evening will be a good time for you to consult with fellow associates concerning career activities.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Be careful in handling an outside affair this morning. Labour on soothing a nervous friend who is suspicious about the method of operation with a new project. Cooperate with both your fellow associates and a bigwig.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) A decision which you have been avoiding finally demands attention today, so make the effort to proceed. Keep your career in mind while addressing it, thereby you won't make any mistakes in your method of operation.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Get mundane matters out of the way early today in order to make room for a more interesting project. Be tactful towards the advances of a new acquaintance. Later this evening you can meet with knowledgeable people.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Make sure that a fellow associate knows your intentions for a joint project. Pay close attention to public affairs, thereby you can handle any adverse situation which comes to you in the days ahead.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Make sure that those who have been loyal know that you appreciate it. Finish all career activities which you have started. Focus on obligations which you have neglected and complete whatever tasks you are given.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Make your entertainment appointments early today, then follow through on regular duties, which will gain you recognition of a bigwig. Listen carefully to the ideas of a fellow associate and make good use of them.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Show your devotion to loved ones today by labouring extra hard at home and making your mate out somewhere special later this evening. This is a good time to discuss with a bigwig the ideas you have for a new project.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Handle as many messages as possible this morning, so you can give some much needed attention to home affairs in the days ahead. Later this evening you can be happy, by spending some quality time with your loved ones.

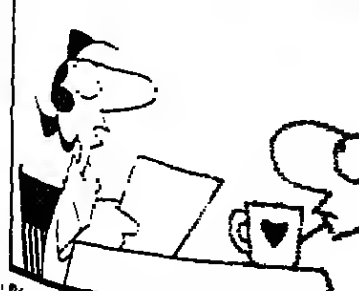
AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Morning provides the best opportunity to settle business activities today, and collect any funds which you deserve. Visit a new acquaintance later this evening, however, square business first, thereby you can be successful.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You should stop procrastinating on fulfilment of promises today, since if you don't make the effort you could lose your reputation. You will need a larger income in the days ahead. Try to look into new enterprises. Birthstone of September: Sapphire — Lapiz Lazuli

Study finds bank's lack of strategies and well-studied hesitant to finance

Govt approves proposed private Royal

THE BETTER HALF



You can have spare ribs on y... but only if the ribs come from the best, tenderloin or humminob

</



## Daily Beat

A review of news from the Arabic press

### Study finds banks lacking strategies and well-studied plans, hesitant to finance exports

**\*\* A STUDY** about banking services has showed that local banks in general have no strategic planning, no well-studied plans and no sufficient future studies. The study indicated that the banks' willingness to finance exports is limited and that they also have limited expectations to obtain the ISO quality certificate. "Banks are hesitant in financing exports and if credit is extended in this regard, banks are careful and the financing is limited to between 10 and 30 per cent of the required amount in addition to taking various collaterals," the study said.

According to the study, Jordanian commercial banks doubt the capability of Jordanian financial and commercial markets to establish or absorb successful financial institutions that can achieve suitable income, encourage banks to deal with the financial market and attract foreign funds that lead to increased trading in the market. The banks have also cast doubt about the capability of Jordanian specialised laws to attract large investments that would lead to an increase in financial operations and to attract financial institutions that would contribute to building and deepening the financial market.

The study stressed also the following three points:

- 1) Expediting the completion of raising the capital of banks in addition to building reserves to increase shareholders' equity as well as improving the quality of assets to become less risky.

- 2) Convincing the banks to increase lending to developing sectors, especially the agricultural, industrial and services sectors, and infrastructure projects.

- 3) Adopting a less strict monetary policy to lessen borrowing costs and to weigh financing large projects by Jordanian banks (Al Dustour).

### Cabinet approves proposals to restructure, privatise Royal Jordanian

**\*\* THE COUNCIL** of Ministers has approved a proposed strategy to restructure and privatise Royal Jordanian in accordance with the recommendations of the Higher Ministerial Committee for Privatisation. The strategy calls for registering an airline company owned by Royal Jordanian and a strategic partner from the private sector. This company would operate on commercial basis after completing the restructuring process of Royal Jordanian.

To achieve this strategy, the Cabinet has approved the formation of an executive team to manage the restructuring and privatisation processes. The team will be led by a highly-experienced and full-time senior official and includes senior officials from the ministries of transport, finance and the Privatisation Executive Unit at the Prime Ministry as members. The team will represent the government in working with international consultants and donors of technical assistance.

Meanwhile, the Higher Ministerial Committee for privatisation has approved the plan of the Jordan Investment Corporation to sell the shares of the government in public shareholding companies where the state equity in these firms is less than five per cent of their capital (Al Aswaj).

## Securities Commission members have high qualifications, wide experience

**AMMAN (J.T.)** — The new Securities Law of 1997, which was published in the Official Gazette on May 15, 1997, has authorised the establishment of a Securities Commission which has a legal entity and enjoys administrative and financial autonomy and directly reports to the prime minister.

The Securities Commission, empowered by the law, is set to provide the appropriate environment to achieve sound dealing in the securities market in addition to its role as a regulating body in charge of organising and developing the securities market on one hand, and the Jordanian capital market on the other.

Moreover, the Commission will protect investors and shareholders from fraud, deceit and any malpractices and will also regulate the disclosure of information related to the securities that are important to investors, particularly when taking their investment decisions in this regard.

Amman Bourse, the Securities Deposit Centre, and the Association of the Certified Financial Professionals, are the three entities which fall under the supervision of the Commission.

The Commission's board comprises five members including the chairman and his deputy who are appointed by the Cabinet and ratified by a Royal Decree. Here are profiles of each of the five members of the Securities Commission.

**Michel Marto** — chairman of the Securities Commission

Michel Marto was born in 1940 in Jerusalem. His academic credentials include a Masters Degree and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Southern California (1970). Prior to his graduation, he also spent a year at Stanford University doing graduate research.

Since 1989, Dr. Marto has served as deputy governor of the Central Bank of Jordan. He has also served as chairman of the board of the Industrial Development Bank and the Jordan Mortgage and Refinance Company. Dr. Marto is also a member of the board of the Arab Potash Company.

In addition, Dr. Marto has represented Jordan in many important bilateral and multilateral committees within the framework of the peace talks. He was also Jordan's debt negotiator for the London Club (1989-1993) and the Paris Club

(1989-1997) as well as the bilateral negotiations of creditor countries of the Paris Club. He is a member of the negotiating team with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and has played a critical role in helping Jordan achieve monetary stabilisation and economic reform.

Previously, Dr. Marto worked at the Bank of Jordan (1979-1989), first as deputy general manager, and then as managing director. Between 1977 and 1979, Dr. Marto served as the deputy general manager of the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Company. He has also held several positions as a professional economist. Between 1975 and 1977, he was an economist with the World Bank (IBRD) in Washington, D.C. Prior to that, (1971-1975) he served as the director of the economic research department at the Royal Scientific Society and economic adviser to HRH Crown Prince Hassan. Between 1969 and 1970, Dr. Marto headed the economic research department at the Central Bank of Jordan.

Dr. Marto has also presented and published research papers on economic issues at various international forums.

**Hisham Tall:** Deputy chairman of the Securities Commission

Hisham Tall served as the minister of justice from 1994 until 1996. He also was the minister of state for prime ministry affairs from 1996 until March, 1997.

In addition, Mr. Tall has been a judge at the Higher Court of Justice — from 1991 until 1993, and headed the Office of Prosecutor between (1993-1994).

Mr. Tall has been a member in the National Council, and has been practising law as a legal advisor from 1966 until 1990. Born in 1929, Mr. Tall earned his law degree from University of Damascus, Syria in 1964.

**Tayser Abdul Jabbar:** Commissioner/ the Securities Commission

Tayser Abdul Jabbar is the director of the Arab Consulting Centre.

Prior to heading the Arab Consulting Centre, which he established in 1985, Dr. Abdul Jabbar served as the minister of labour and social development from 1984 until 1985. He was also

undersecretary at the Ministry of Labour between 1979 and 1984. Dr. Abdul Jabbar was the secretary general for the National Planning Council (1977-1979), an economic expert with ESCWA (1975-1976), and director of economic of international organisation department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1973-1974).

Dr. Abdul Jabbar started his career as a bank officer at the Arab Bank in 1963, and became the head of the banking operations section at the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) and later director of the economic research department in 1970.

From 1989 until 1993, Dr. Abdul Jabbar was the under-secretary general of the United Nations and executive secretary for the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

Born in 1940, Dr. Abdul Jabbar earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in economics from University of Southern California, USA.

Dr. Abdul Jabbar is active in a number of organisations at the domestic, regional and international levels, including the Institute of Management Consultants for which he serves as a chairman, and he has also been chairman and member of the board of Arab Labour Organisation, Social Security Corporation, the Vocational Training Corporation and the World Affairs Council. He was recently elected as secretary general of the Jordan Businessmen Association.

Dr. Abdul Jabbar was a member of the Jordanian government delegation to the U.N. General Assembly, representing Jordan in the economic and financial committee between (1972-1974). He also was the spokesman for the Group of 77 for expert group meeting on the Reverse Transfer of Technology (UNCTAD) which was held in Geneva/Switzerland in the late seventies.

Dr. Abdul Jabbar has many published papers and studies that dealt with Arab economic integration. Jordan's economy and human resource development. He also lectured in many universities and institutes in Jordan, the USA, Egypt and other countries.

**Maher Waked:** Commissioner/the Securities Commission

Maher Waked has had twenty-eight years of banking experience, and is currently assistant manager of the Bank of Jordan.

Dr. Waked, born in 1941, obtained a Ph.D. in public finance, USA, 1993 and has obtained ISO Internal Audit Designation, 1997.

Dr. Waked served as department head of banking supervision, foreign currency, and internal auditing at the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ). He was also seconded as advisor to establish banking supervision department in United Arab Emirates (UAE). This was under arrangement between CBJ and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The department later became one of the main departments at the Central Bank in UAE. In addition, Dr. Waked participated in the establishment stages of the Cities and Village Development Bank in cooperation with the World Bank.

Dr. Waked held several positions at the bank of Jordan which include: head of the inspection and audit department and establishing loan recovery department. He is also on the board of directors of several public shareholding companies representing the Bank of Jordan in this regard.

Dr. Waked was appointed by the Attorney General to investigate cases of some collapsing banks in Jordan. In addition, he was a member in the research team of the Royal Scientific Society. He published books and wrote articles in newspapers as well as in specialised financial magazines at both the local and international levels.

Dr. Waked is also a lecturer at the Arab Banking and Financial Science Academy.

**Abdul Hamid Al Hayari:** Commissioner/the Securities Commission

Abdul Hamid Al Hayari has been the director general of the General Supplies Department since 1991, in which he was heading the Central Tenders Committee in charge of purchasing the supplies requested by ministries and governmental establishments in addition to rendering consultation services to governmental authorities concerning the management of general supplies.

Mr. Al Hayari started his career as a financial auditor at the Ministry of Finance between (1966-1969) and was a commissioned accountant for the Ministry of Agriculture from 1969 until 1971. He headed the Central Tenders Section at the Ministry of Finance between (1971-1974).

Mr. Al Hayari served as the financial controller for revenues and expenditures at the Ministry of Tourism, Foreign Affairs Ministry, and the Radio and Television Corporation between (1975-1980).

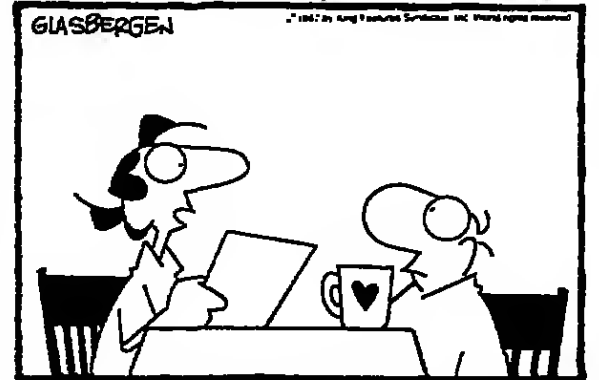
Prior to his post as the director general of the General Supplies Department, Mr. Al Hayari was the assistant manager of general expenditures section and the head of expenditures section at the Ministry of Finance between (1980-1984).

Born in 1943, Mr. Al Hayari earned a B.A. in commerce/accounting and administrative management from Baghdad University, Iraq 1966. He lectured in subjects of accountancy, financial controlling supplies and tenders management, in several institutes in Jordan.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET									
BANKING MARKET SHARE LIST FOR MONDAY 01/09/1997									
PAST 12 MONTHS HIGH	PAST 12 MONTHS LOW	COMPANY'S NAME	P/E	QTY.	NO. OF SHARES	VALUE TRADED	OPEN PRICE	CLOSE PRICE	CHANGE
1,500,000	230,000	ARAB BANK	14.1	1.31	96	2231070	300.00	306.50	6.50
2,340	1,680	JOR. NATIONAL BK.	10.3	0.00	20	30030	1.90	3.91	.01
5,800	4,200	CALAND ANONIM BANK	10.3	3.00	2	21500	10750.00	5.00	.00
2,480	2,100	JOR. POSTAL BANK	8.3	7.20	2	6500	14850.00	2.24	.24
5,200	4,180	THE JORDANIAN BK.	14.3	4.08	5	13300	6175.00	4.75	.00
1,200	1,000	JOR. SECURITIES BANK	4.8	4.21	2	2750	5913.00	3.24	.12
4,050	3,120	JOR. ISLAMIC BANK	18.7	3.12	20	10946	42316.00	3.87	.00
3,600	2,080	JOR. INV. & FID. BANK	21.9	0.00	10	14640	49310.00	3.37	.00
BANK SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 222.61	FCBI: -1.67	166	48250	231972		
1,870	1,530	JOR. ELECTRIC PWR.	6.0	6.02	9	2816	4674.00	1.66	.66
2,900	2,450	RIVER NIGERDALE	14.6	5.40	3	2500	8084.00	2.78	.00
7,500	6,000	UNION BANK	7.9	7.20	2	2300	14600.00	2.24	.24
1,550	930	KATEL PORTFOLIO	9.8	0.00	16	28700	37409.00	1.41	.41
3,120	2,690	ARAB BANK FOR IND.	6.8	0.00	8	17500	5913.00	3.24	.12
1,220	930	SAWA INVESTMENT	8.2	0.00	10	7300	7546.00	1.03	.03
2,230	1,430	UNIFIED CO.	8.2	6.40	5	1000	1720.00	1.73	.73
SERVICE SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 111.75	FCBI: -0.15	51	60466	125384		
4,450	3,220	JOR. CEMENT FACT.	26.2	2.83	21	4871	18781.00	3.83	.89
1,140	2,860	JOR. PHOSPHATE MINES	20.6	2.52	2	50100	191180.00	3.80	3.82
10,310	8,970	JOR. PETRO. REFINERY	9.9	8.67	4	200	2046.00	10.23	.03
4,250	3,040	ARAB PHARM. IND.	11.5	4.81	11	3150	13055.00	4.16	.16
7,150	5,790	JOR. CERAMIC IND.	6.0	3.45	10	1200	6960.00	5.90	.00
9,800	5,500	ARAB CEMENT, NIGERDALE	19.8	4.65	2	750	4536.00	6.45	.45
5,650	4,200	DAR ALADWA, INV. & FID.	13.5	4.25	1	400	4700.00	5.50	.50
1,600	450	AL-TAKWEEF & PORTFOLIO	9.7	0.00	1	500	11.230.00	.48	.48
3,690	2,750	GENERAL INVESTMENT	7.4	4.07	2	5642	21061.00	3.69	.69
1,290	1,000	ARAB PAPER CO. IND.	9.7	0.00	6	2050	2191.00	1.06	.06
730	510	NATIONAL INDUS.	9.8	0.00	4	2600	13178.00	.53	.53
1,000	510	INTERMED. PETRO. CORP.	9.8	0.00	2	1000	550.00	.35	.35
540	530	JOR. REFINED OILS	6.0	0.00	2	294	143.00	.85	.85
2,980	1,520	UNION BANK, IND.	12.7	6.58	2	750	1240.00	1.57	.57
1,910	1,080	UNION BANK, RESOURCES	7.9	12.0	2	500	1183.00	.91	.91
1,410	1,000	JOR. PETRO. REFINERY	24.3	4.61	1	2750	4180.00	1.53	.53
1,070	810	JOR. NEW CABLE CO.	15.6	0.00	1	250	223.00	.85	.85
2,090	1,340	EL-ZAY REFRIG. MECH.	56.3	0.00	10	7002	31077.00	3.56	.56
1,330	700	UNION BANK, RESOURCES	6.5	0.00	4	2550	3025.00	1.80	.80
1,180	860	UNION CH. & VEG.	49.1	0.00	13	17500	18582.00	1.05	.05
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR TOTALS			INDEX: 121.14	FCBI: -0.47	117	105265	304813		
GRAND TOTAL			INDEX: 167.59	FCBI: +1.11	334	214081	2772668		

1. New 12 months high  
2. Listed during the past 12 months  
3. P/E ratio is 100 or more  
4. Negative P/E  
5. Rating is zero or N/A for the most recent year

### THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen



"You can have spare ribs on your diet, but only if the ribs come from a bee, tadpole or hummingbird."

### JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four jumbles. One letter to each square. To form four ordinary words.

Thank you, my good friend, I remember when he was covered with mud.

WHAT HE ENDED UP GETTING WHEN HE STRUCK OIL.

Now arrange the circles letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: MIRTH DINER FAUCET EXCISE  
Answer: The last quarter of a night game can turn into this — "CRUNCH TIME"

## JORDAN MARKETPLACE \*\*\* JORDAN MARKETPLACE \*\*\* JORDAN MARKETPLACE

### DAJANI Jewellers. Gems dealers. Unique designs in 18k Gold

At Amra Forum Hotel Shops  
Phone 5527118 Also in Brazil

**STUDIO HAIG**  
Professional quality in 1 hour service.  
Develop your colour film at our shop and get:  
\* JUMBO photo size 30% larger.  
\* Free enlargement 20 x 30 cm.  
Shmeisani - Opposite Grindlays Bank.  
Phone: 604042  
Sweiffish Tel: 823891

**FOR YOUR Advertisement in Jordan Times**  
Call tel: 667171 ext. 223

**FOR YOUR Advertisement in Jordan Times**  
Call tel: 667171 ext. 223

**AIRPORT EXPRESS**  
Modern Air-Conditioned Buses Around the CLOCK Every 30 Minutes from Abdali to Airport and Back  
Special Reduced Fares at 500 Fils For Airport Staff and our Frequent Customers  
For Further Details call Airport Branch 08-51531  
Abdali Branch 653113

**CRISTAL**  
Quality Serviced Suites  
\* One & Two Bedrooms \* Fully Equipped Kitchens \* Daily & Long Stay \* Reasonable Rates  
5th Circle  
Tel 692672 Fax 674551

**CROWN HOTEL**  
\* OLYMPIC SIZE SWIMMING POOL \* TENNIS & SQUASH COURTS \* SAUNA, JACUZZI & MASSAGE \* FITNESS ROOM  
Tel: 758180  
Radio & TV station RD.

**SANABEL REAL ESTATE**  
FOR RENT  
For details please call Tel. 864230 Fax. 864231

**The place to be if its on CD**  
We buy & trade CDS New arrivals Daily  
LARGEST SELECTION IN THE MIDDLE EAST  
CD-ROM, GAMES, SOFTWARE & MUSIC  
Shmeisani, next to shmeisani post office  
Tel. 700624 - Fax 604183



# Confident Agassi eyes a surprise; Seles ousts Pierce at U.S. Open

NEW YORK (AFP) — Andre Agassi outwitted Mark Woodforde Sunday to take one more step toward duplicating his 1994 long-shot victory in the U.S. Open.

Agassi, a former world number one who has sunk to 63rd in the world, repaid Woodforde for a quarter-final defeat in Indianapolis two weeks ago with a 6-2, 6-2, 6-4 third round beating.

The victory sent Agassi into a fourth-round match with 13th-seeded Australian Pat Rafter, who cruised past France's Lionel Roux 6-1, 6-1, 6-2.

Agassi, who was also unseeded when he won here in 1994, said the defeat at Indy taught him what to do against Woodforde.

"Mark feeds off his ability to work on your pace," Agassi said. "But when you don't give him the pace, when you keep it out of his wheelhouse, he has to generate his own. He can't get away with chipping if he's got to generate pace."

So Agassi slowed it down, and Woodforde floundered. "I just didn't find an answer," Woodforde said. "I was always in two minds. I wanted to try to serve-volley on my second serve, but I was frightened of his return."

Agassi had been notably lacking in the ability to execute even a sound game plan effectively for much of the year.

He admitted that before the tournament he was wishing he had one more warm-up event.

"I was still going out there in the first round going, 'I've got to work through a few here to believe my game exists,'" he said.

He made a believer out of himself with a 6-0, 6-2, 6-2 second-round victory over Adrian Panatta.

Now Rafter is the only seed left in his quarter and Agassi is feeling confident. "I'm in a whole different place now," he said. "Now it's not about comeback. It's about going out there and winning matches."

Monica Seles, also struggling this year to regain the form that earned her nine Grand Slam titles, battled to a 1-6, 6-2, 6-2 fourth-round victory over ninth-seeded Mary Pierce.

"I felt if I could stay aggressive I would be doing



Williams is feasting on the field at the U.S. Open, having won her way to the quarter-finals as her debutante. But the 17-year-old American is finding the real feast in city restaurants. "Good to eat somewhere different every day," Williams said. "When we go overseas, I'm kind of scared to eat different foods. We would eat Chinese every day in England and France. Finally got over it now. 'In England we had fish and chips. Other than that, I mean, it's not the way I would have cooked it.' Of course, the hands that grip the racquet rarely grip pots and pans. 'I don't cook unless I'm forced to,' she said. "There's a hunger strike going on. My mom won't cook. I guess I don't cook because I don't want to clean."

Dope rumours upset ATP: Erroneous reports that world number five Thomas Muster tested positive in a doping test have hurt the sport and the Austrian veteran, ATP Tour chief executive officer Mark Miles said. "When we here rumours a player tested positive at a place where we were not testing, that is upsetting," Miles said. "It has a negative impact on the sport and it can have that effect on an individual player." An Italian newspaper reported Muster failed a doping test, a claim Muster denied angrily after losing in the first round here last week. "We thought (they) were irresponsible," Miles said. "There's no excuse for it." Miles said the ATP tests about 1,000 times a year and top players are tested three or four times a year in and out of competition.

Mary Pierce of France reacts to a missed scoring opportunity after falling behind in the third set against second seed Monica Seles of the United States during their fourth round match at the U.S. Open in New York. Seles won 1-6 6-2 6-2 to advance to the quarterfinals (Reuters photo)

very well," Seles said of her plan for the match. "I thought I was going to start out being aggressive. A couple of times I missed the shot, I became very tentative."

"I had a hard time finding my rhythm. Those are the times I need to hang in there. Hopefully as the matches progress, I can get back that aggressive style of play."

In the quarter-finals Seles will meet 11th seed Irina Spirlea of Romania, who upset fifth-seeded South African Amanda Coetzer 7-

6 (7/4), 6-4. The other quarter-final in the lower half of the draw will pit unseeded Sandrine Testud of France against unseeded American Venus Williams.

Williams, 17, and playing in her first U.S. Open, beat South African Joanne Kruger 6-2, 6-3, while Testud downed Slovakian Karina Habsudova 6-3, 4-6, 7-6 (7/1) to her first Grand Slam quarter-final.

Men's second seed Michael Chang reached the fourth round with a 6-1, 6-3,

7-5 victory over Armenian Sargis Sargsian. He'll next play France's Cedric Pioline, who needed seven match points to subdue India's Leander Paes 3-6, 7-6 (7/5), 1-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Tenth seed Marcelo Rios of Chile also waded through five sets, emerging with a 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 1-6, 6-1 win over Germany's Tommy Haas.

## U.S. Open diary

Venus feasting in the "Big Apple": Venus

Seles fan is a real dog: Monica Seles had a special spectator watching her fourth-round match here Sunday — her dog Ariel. Seles was given the Yorkie hitch as a surprise following the French Open. But a mishap kept her from making the scene at Wimbledon. "She broke her leg so I couldn't take her to England," Seles said. "So I just had her now for 10 days." Seles had another dog but it died. "It's nice to have somebody at least when you come home," Seles said.



Andre Agassi of the United States, wearing a black ribbon in memory of Princess Diana, gives thumbs-up to the crowd after defeating Mark Woodforde of Australia during their third round match at the U.S. Open in New York. "It's sick that this happened," the high profile American tennis star, who is married to actress Brooke Shields, said before the match as he walked from practice to the locker room. Agassi defeated Woodforde 6-2 6-2 6-4 (Reuters photo)

## U.S. Open pays respects to Diana

NEW YORK (AFP) — The U.S. Open tennis championships paused Sunday as players and fans remembered Diana, Princess of Wales, less than a day after her death in a road accident in Paris.

Fans in the 23,000-seat Arthur Ashe stadium were asked to stand and observe a minute of silence in honor of the princess, her companion Dodi Fayed and their driver, who were all killed in the crash which occurred shortly after midnight.

And superstar tennis players, familiar themselves with the frenzied attention of paparazzi, joined the chorus condemning the photographers who were chasing Diana's car when it crashed.

Nine-time Grand Slam champion Monica Seles recalled that after she won her first French Open title in 1990, photographers on a motorbike actually banged into her car. "They were curious where I was going to celebrate," Seles said.

"They hit the car. That was the closest I've come to anything like that."

Seles was just 16 years old at the time. She later paid an even greater price for her high public profile, when she was stabbed in the back by a deranged fan of rival Steffi Graf during a tournament in Hamburg in 1993.

But Seles said she didn't think she or any other tennis player faced the kind of pressure from the media that Diana felt.

"I don't think any of us can relate to the level she had," Seles said. "It's just a terrible, tragic thing. To all the other people in the car, too."

Former world number one Andre Agassi, whose marriage to actress Brooke Shields has made him doubly attractive to the tabloid press, excoriated the photographers who make a living pursuing the famous.

"It's wrong," Agassi said. "They put the dollar ahead of any sense of ethics, any sense of morals."

Agassi was hardly less scathing in his condemnation of the public who consume the photographs.

"Certainly this is a situation where we have an opportunity to make a step forward and do something about it," he said. "If there's nothing that is done, if nothing changes, it's sad, it's an even sadder day."

England's Virginia Wade, who won an emotional Wimbledon in 1977, the year of Queen Elizabeth II's silver jubilee, recalled meeting Diana in later years, when the princess was a regular in the royal box during The Championships.

"She would always talk to you like you were her best friend," Wade recalled. "While Diana became the most watched woman in the world, Wade said she felt that the princess never lost the shyness of her youth."

"I know the first time I met her at the royal box. We'd had one of these parades of, I think it was 100 ladies who had played Wimbledon. 'She said, 'Weren't you self-conscious out there with all those people watching you?'"

"From then on I had a sense that she was really shy."

Diana was an enthusiastic tennis fan and played regularly herself. She once played former world number one Steffi Graf in a charity match.

Wade recalled that she once discussed the difficulties of public life with the princess, although she said the small intrusions into her own privacy were nothing to those faced by the princess.

"She was trying to be a real person in the midst of that," Wade said.

## World Cup qualifier unchanged, sports events to be cancelled for funeral

LONDON (AFP) — All sports events scheduled for Britain on Saturday are facing cancellation following the announcement of the funeral arrangements for Diana, Princess of Wales.

Cricketer's NatWest Trophy final was the weekend's main event and it is now likely to be held on Sunday.

The Football League are to "consult with all parties concerned" over whether Saturday's Nationwide League programme, as well as Bradford's home match with Sunderland on Friday evening, will go ahead, but it is likely to be postponed.

The rugby league

Premiership preliminary round match between Leeds and Oldham at Headingley has already been cancelled and Rugby Union's European Cup matches are likely to be postponed, although a final decision will not be made until Tuesday.

Race meetings at Haydock, Epsom, Thirsk, Wolverhampton and Stratford may also be cancelled.

England's World Cup qualifier with Moldova next Wednesday will go ahead, the Football Association confirmed.

The English Premiership

match between Bolton and Everton was to go ahead as scheduled at Bolton's new Reebok stadium on Monday night.

The decision followed discussions between football authorities and the Government about whether it should be postponed as a mark of respect.

On Sunday, the sell-out Premiership match between Liverpool and Newcastle, plus Crewe's game with Port Vale were called off in England along with Kilmarnock's game with Motherwell in Scotland.



Sergi Bruguera of Spain celebrates after beating Hernan Gumeny of Argentina during their third round match at the U.S. Open. Bruguera won in five sets 6-1 6-4 5-7 3-6 6-4 (Reuters photo)



Irina Spirlea of Romania, the 11th seed, celebrates her win over fifth-seed Amanda Coetzer of South Africa after their fourth-round U.S. Open tennis match in New York. Spirlea reached the U.S. Open quarter-finals for the first time in her career on Sunday by upsetting Amada Coetzer 7-6 (7-4) 6-4 (Reuters photo)

TODAY AT

CINEMA TEL:634144

PHILADELPHIA "1"  
Val Kilmer & Elizabeth Shue...in

THE SAINT

Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

CINEMA TEL:634144

PHILADELPHIA "2"

THE LOST WORLD  
(JURASSIC PARK)

Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

CINEMA TEL:699238

PLAZA

Brian Brosworth... in

ONE TOUGH BASTARD

Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

CINEMA TEL:677420

CONCORD

CONCORD "1"  
The movie event of the summer is here  
Arnold Schwarzenegger...in  
BATMAN & ROBIN  
(12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30)

CONCORD "2"

ACE VENTURA 1

Shows: 3:30, 6:00 only

Nabil & Risham's Theatre  
TEL: 625155

The satirical play

AMN AI AI YA HO

performance starts at 8:30 p.m.

The theatre is closed every Friday.

For reservations call 625155

A Flat For Re

urnished ground floor flat, co  
bedrooms, a dining room,  
bathrooms, a kitchen (fully furni  
telephone line. Located at a ver  
station at Um Utheina - bet  
annual rent is required and pre  
companies or embassies  
To visit or inquire, please call u  
827075 or 827079



## Devers nails down one last win

CATANIA, Sicily (AFP) — America's Olympic 100 metres champion Gail Devers won the festival sprint here on Sunday and then declared that her trademark long nails were to be cut off.

Devers, who was part of an all star line-up invited to reanimate the newly renovated 'Cibali' stadium here, beat Ukraine's Zhanna Pinusevich, the world silver medalist at 100 and 200 metres titleholder, and then revealed the nails which are so long they curl round into the palm of her hands were to become a thing of the past.

"It's like smokers who try to give up. It's taken me a long time to realise they must go and as I regard this as a transitional season I've decided that the month of September is as good a time as any to cut them off," Devers said.

Another athlete who faces a change won the men's 100 metres — Namibian



American two times Olympic champion Gail Devers waves to spectators at Catania's Cibali stadium after she won the women's 100 meter in a festival of sprint at the World Student Games. Devers clocked her best time of 11.03 (Reuters photo)

Frankie Fredericks, who has decided he will be called Frank when he retires, completed the 100-200 double here.

Thirty-year-old Fredericks, who took silver in the 200 metres world title in Athens, blasted out of the blocks and easily disposed of Americans Dennis Mitchell and John Drummond.

Cuba's Ivan Pedroso showed what a champion he is by taking the World Student Games title here on Sunday with his last jump of the long jump competition — denying Jamaican

James Beckford who had led for the whole event.

Pedroso, the 24-year-old who won the world title in Athens earlier in the month, jumped for joy after his effort of 8.40 metres which was also a World Student Games record.

He left Beckford, who had led with 8.35m, who was due to jump last, a final shot at beating his tormentor.

The 22-year-old Jamaican, who was allowed back into competition in Athens when the IAAF revised their drugs ban policy and his three-month

suspension for testing positive for caffeine was revoked, made a good effort of it but touched down short with 8.33.

Pedroso's win completed a superb year, adding this title to the world indoor and outdoor versions.

For Beckford it was the third time he has had to take silver in a championships. He was second at the world championships two years ago, where Pedroso won, the Olympics, and here in a classic duel to round off the World Student Games in great style.

## Five cities in tight race for 2004 Olympic Games

PARIS (AFP) — Athens says it is time for the Olympics to return to their spiritual home. Rome points to its organisational abilities and Stockholm claims it is the choice of the athletes.

Cape Town and Buenos Aires argue it is time the Games moved into new arenas.

The merits of all those arguments will be put to the test when the International Olympic Committee meets in Lausanne on Friday to decide the host city for the 2004 Olympic Games.

Insiders say it is one of the tightest races ever. The Games haven't been held in Europe since Barcelona in 1992; moving instead to Atlanta and Sydney.

That gives added urgency to the push from Athens, Rome and Stockholm. The Olympics have never been held in Africa or South America, though, boosting the arguments of Cape Town and Buenos Aires.

For all the arguments in favour of each candidate, there are counter-arguments against.

Athens' organisation of the recent world athletics championships came under fire, and the crowds were dismal over the first few days.

Rome has major traffic problems, while Stockholm's bid has been damaged, perhaps fatally, by a series of terrorist bombings attacks.

Cape Town lacks infrastructure and the high crime level in South Africa looms as a potential problem, while the people of Buenos

Aires have indicated no real enthusiasm for hosting the Olympiad.

Rome and Athens, the two founding cities of modern culture, have until recently been considered the front-runners. Then came the furore over the world athletics championships and discontent over uncompleted facilities at the World Student Games in Sicily, an event overseen by one of Rome's main backers — International Amateur Athletic Federation president Primo Nebiolo, who is also head of the International University Sports Federation (FISU).

It was the outspoken Nebiolo who sparked most of the debate over Athens' running of the world championships, claiming the IAAF had to step in to prevent the event becoming a debacle.

Following damaging organisational failures in Atlanta last year, where the transport system and the official results system failed and a terrorist bomb was responsible for two deaths and several injuries in the downtown area, IOC members are understandably keen to avoid both risks and the possibility of future maladministration.

Greece said Nebiolo's criticisms were motivated purely by his determination to see Rome's bid succeed.

"As a money lover and an Italian, Nebiolo is interested in his country, and Rome. But I believe that Greece will get the 2004 Olympics," said Greek Justice Minister Evangelos Yannopoulos.

It has been largely Rome, Athens and Stockholm at heart of the argument in the lead-up to the decision. Cape Town

and Buenos Aires, the less favoured candidates, have largely avoided the mud-slinging.

Rome has 30 of its 38 venues already in place, but hosted the Olympics in 1960. Some see it as too soon to return to a city that has already held the Games when new cities are clamouring for the opportunity.

Stockholm, which hosted the Olympics back in 1912, has been rocked by a series of arson attacks. An extremist Swedish group has threatened to "disrupt and destroy" the Games if they are awarded to the Swedish city.

"If Stockholm gets it, we will make the 1972 Olympic tragedy in Munich look like a kindergarten tiff," read a letter signed by the organisation whose name translates as "We Who Built Sweden."

The group says money used on the Olympics would be better spent on job creation and the building of facilities for the homeless.

Stockholm's plans — supported by athletes including Stefan Edberg, Willie Banks and Ato Boldon — include the expense of a new 70,000-seat Olympic Stadium on the sea at Hammarby.

"It is clear that it would have been better if these things (bombings) hadn't happened," said Stockholm mayor Mats Hulth. "But you just have to swallow, clench your teeth and push ahead."

With Sydney, Australia, hosting the 2000 Olympics, it is thought unlikely the Games will be held in the southern hemisphere twice in a row.

Cape Town, though, has conducted a solid campaign and there is a big push for sport's biggest occasion to be held in Africa.

President Nelson Mandela has said Cape Town deserves to host the Games as a reward for South Africa's averting bloodshed and soothing white minority fears prior to the 1994 all-race elections.

Mandela, who will be in Lausanne for the decision, said that an IOC vote for Cape Town would be "a vote for the deepening of democracy."

South Africa has hosted the rugby World Cup and the African Nations football championship, both with great success, since returning to the international sporting arena after the apartheid years.

Buenos Aires has been the most low-key candidate — but so was Atlanta before the decision on the 1996 host. Those IOC members who have visited the Argentine capital have reportedly been impressed with what they have seen as Buenos Aires makes its fifth bid to be an Olympic host.

"I'm impressed and surprised," said Israeli IOC member Alex Gilady after a visit to Buenos Aires in April. Olympic insiders have also said that Buenos Aires could appeal as a compromise candidate for members fed-up with the bickering between Rome and Athens.

There is a feeling within the IOC that all five bidding cities have the capability to host the Olympics. Now the 113 members have to decide which of the five bidders can produce a truly outstanding Olympics.

## New coaches win NFL season-openers

NEW YORK (AFP) — Six new National Football League coaches and the Tennessee Oilers, relocated from Houston, tasted victory Sunday in the season's opening American football games.

Dick Vermeil of St. Louis, Bill Parcells of the New York Jets, Pete Carroll of the New England Patriots, Bobby Ross of the Detroit Lions, Jim Fassel of the New York Giants and Bruce Coslet of Cincinnati won in their debuts with new clubs.

Five other new coaches were losers, including Mike Ditka of New Orleans, Dan Reeves of Atlanta, Steve Mariucci of San Francisco, Kevin Gilbride of San Diego and Oakland's Joe Bugel.

Lawrence Phillips rushed for a career-high 125 yards and three touchdowns to lead St. Louis past New Orleans 38-24 in the first-ever meeting between two coaches who ended extended retirements to return.

"Needless to say, I'm very pleased," said 60-year-old Vermeil, out of the NFL for 14 years. "I owe an awful lot to my coaching staff. It took 15 years to do it again and our coaching staff did a hell of a job."

Ex-Chicago coach Ditka took on the challenge of overhauling the Saints, who were 3-13 last year, after a four-year hiatus from coaching.

Troy Aikman tied a career-high with four touchdown passes, two to Michael Irvin, as Dallas routed Pittsburgh 37-7.

Anthony Miller and Daryl Johnston also caught touchdown passes for the Cowboys, who handed Pittsburgh its worst defeat since a 41-10 loss to Cincinnati in 1989.

Tampa Bay spoiled the debut of Mariucci with a stunning 13-6 victory over the 49ers, whose offense failed to score a touchdown for the first time since 1991, a span of 86 regular-season and 10 playoff games.

The 49ers lost quarterback Steve Young to an



San Francisco 49ers quarterback Steve Young is sacked by Tampa Bay Buccaneers Hardy Nickerson during the fourth quarter. The Bucs, who sacked 49er quarterbacks seven times, won 13-6 (Reuters photo)

and Al Del Greco kick a 33-yard field goal 6:57 into overtime to give the Oilers a 24-21 victory over Oakland.

After 37 years in Houston, the Oilers moved to Tennessee but lured only 30,171 to the 62,000-seat Liberty Bowl in Memphis, their home for two years until a new stadium is built

in Nashville. Parcells, who led New England to last January's Super Bowl, made his debut with the Jets a rousing success. Neil O'Donnell threw a career-high five touchdown passes in a 41-3 dismantling of Seattle, giving the Jets as many triumphs this season as they managed in all of 1996.

"I couldn't hope for anything better than that," said Parcells. "I realize that it's a long season and it's just one step."

The Patriots flourished under Parcells' replacement Carroll with a 41-7 rout of San Diego. Drew Bledsoe completed 26-of-39 passes for 340 yards and four touchdowns for the Patriots, who led 31-0 at half-time.

Fassel became the first coach to win his NFL debut on his birthday as the Giants defeated the Philadelphia Eagles, 31-17. He turned 48 Sunday.

Coslet, 7-2 after replacing David Shula as Bengals coach last year, continued his winning ways as Cincinnati rallied from a 21-3 deficit to beat Arizona 24-21.

In other games, Denver beat Kansas City 19-3, Minnesota beat Buffalo 34-13, Miami defeated Indianapolis 16-10, Jacksonville edged Baltimore 28-27, Detroit beat Atlanta 28-17 and Washington topped Carolina 24-10.

### FOR RENT

MODERN FURNISHED & UNFURNISHED APARTMENTS

— TWO BEDROOMS —

Location: Jabal Amman - Zahran - Between 3rd & 4th Circles

Call Tel.: 642351 - 667862 - 079/50504

### Special Offer

A Female Employee wanted with experience in translation. Full time or part time. For Only 275 J.D.

CUSTOMS FREE for Diplomatic corps & Embassies

H.J. Interprise - Al Jame'a h str. - Near Jerusalem Hotel Tel. 692779

### Semi-Furnished Villa For Rent

Furnished super deluxe semi-villa, comprising three bedrooms, a spacious dining room, an air-conditioned parlour connected to a large roofed veranda, with three bathrooms, a kitchen (fully furnished with rosewood cabinets), a storage room, a private entrance, a big garden, a garage and a telephone line. Located at the 4th Circle - near the Prime Ministry - Jabal Amman. Annual rent is required and preference is for companies or embassies.

To visit or inquire, please call us on 827075 or 827079

### A Flat For Rent

A furnished ground floor flat, comprising two bedrooms, a dining room, with 2 bathrooms, a kitchen (fully furnished) and a telephone line. Located at a very unique location at Um Utheina - behind Um Utheina Commercial Complex - Amman. Annual rent is required and preference is for companies or embassies.

To visit or inquire, please call us on 827075 or 827079

## Maradona protests his innocence

BUENOS AIRES (AFP) — Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona is protesting his innocence after failing yet another drugs test.

Maradona said he had not taken cocaine, his agent Guillermo Coppola told the Argentine television program "Tribuna Caliente" on Sunday.

"Diego swore to me he did not take cocaine, so now I doubt the results of the doping test," Coppola said.

"He came to my house to avoid journalists who were chasing him."

Maradona was in hiding over the weekend, first staying out of sight in a friend's home in the wealthy Buenos Aires suburb of Recoleta and then returning to his own house.

"He hasn't told me when he will speak publicly about the issue, but I'm sure he will do so when he's ready," Coppola said.

Maradona, who has had several drug problems, was attempting his fifth career comeback. He had tested positive for drugs twice before, in 1991 when he was playing for Napoli and during the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

## Rivaldo fires Barca, Seedorf saves Real

MADRID (AFP) — Barcelona began the post-Ronaldo era Sunday with a comprehensive 3-0 demolition of Real Sociedad at the Nou Camp, 18 million-pound new recruit Rivaldo scoring twice.

With Brazilian striker Ronaldo finally having left for Inter Milan in the summer for a fee yet to be decided, compatriot Rivaldo, signed from Deportivo La Coruna, stepped into his shoes and made an immediate impression with goals in the 27th and 80th minutes.

Another Brazilian, Giovanni, hit Barca's other goal in the 56th minute against outclassed opponents.

Champions Real Madrid opened their title defence Saturday with a 1-1 draw against city rivals Atletico, salvaging a point only thanks to a 40-yard wonder goal by Dutchman Clarence Seedorf.

Real, now coached by German Jupp Heynckes following Fabio Capello's return to Milan, dominated the match at a seething Bernabeu stadium.

### FOR SALE

Range Rover 1989, excellent condition, duty unpaid, blue colour with full options. Interested only, please call Tel.: 5535486

### Furnished Apartment For Rent IN UM UTHEINA

Consists of three bedrooms, three bathrooms, sitting room, living room, L-shaped dining room, fully equipped kitchen, telephone is available, separate central heating. Suitable for diplomatic families. Please contact Tel. 5510794 or 5530444

**Under the Patronage of HRH Princess Sumaya Bint Al-Hassan**

Tradition comes alive at Kan Zaman Village

**ArtZaman & Bani Hamida**

welcome you to the

**Bani Hamida Exhibition**

\* Rugs \* Cushions \* Runners  
\* Wallhangings \* Baskets

at Al-Baidar Hall of the historic village of Kan Zaman

Starting Monday, 25/8 - Saturday, 20/9/97  
From 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

The exhibition is sponsored by

مجلس نساء عمان  
NASHAAT & ESSA FORUMS

For more information, please call 6586967.

AL-YAMHEED PRINTING & PAPER LTD.

**GOREN BRIDGE**

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMAR HIRSCH

USE ALL YOUR WEAPONS

Neither vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH	EAST
♠ A J 8 6	♠ 5 2
♥ K J 7 3	♥ Q 10 8 5
♦ A J	♦ 7 4 3 2
♣ 8 6 4	♣ Q 10 9

WEST

♠ 4	♠ 5 2
♥ 9 4	♥ Q 10 8 5
♦ K Q 10 8 5	♦ 7 4 3 2
♣ A J 7 2	♣ Q 10 9

SOUTH

♠ K Q 10 9 7 3
♥ A 8 2
♦ 9
♣ 5 3

The bidding:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1♠	Pass	1♠	Pass
2♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
3♠	Pass	3♠	Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠

It is not good enough just to formulate a plan in an effort to make your contract. Think twice in case there is a way to improve on it.

The auction was straightforward. Once spades were raised, South had more than enough to proceed to game, especially since the king of clubs raised to be worth an ace because of partner's one-club opening.

West led the king of diamonds, and declarer saw that the king of clubs was by no means a sure trick. Indeed, West rested to have the ace for the two-diamond overall. However, declarer found a pretty line which increased the chances for the contract.

The king of diamonds was allowed to hold the first trick, and West continued with a diamond to the ace, declarer discarding a heart. Trumps were drawn in two rounds, the ace and king of hearts were cashed and a heart was ruffed. Had that fetched the lady, declarer would have been able to discard a club on the jack of hearts and claim the contract. If West had length in hearts, declarer could have engineered an endplay to secure the fulfilling trick. Unlucky — down one.

There was a hidden asset in the hand which declarer failed to utilize — the jack of diamonds! Declarer should win the first diamond, draw two rounds of trumps, and cash the ace and king of hearts. Then the jack of diamonds is led, declarer discarding a heart from hand.

West wins, but is endplayed. A club promotes the king, a diamond yields a ruff-suit, and a heart, covered by the jack, presents declarer with a third trick in that suit on any lie of the cards. Try it for yourself.





THE LATE PRINCESS IN WAX: Tourists pass a waxwork statue of Princess Diana at Madame Tussaud's in London on Monday. The funeral of the princess, will take place on Saturday, Buckingham Palace announced today (See story on page 1) (Reuters photo)

## Egyptian press hawks conspiracy theories on princess, Dodi's death

CAIRO (AFP) — The Egyptian press on Monday lamented the death of a 20th century Cinderella, and hinted that Princess Diana and her millionaire Egyptian lover died in a plot orchestrated by British intelligence services.

"Did the British secret services kill Diana?" shouted the Al Usbu weekly on its front page, suggesting a racist plot to end Diana's relationship with Dodi Fayed.

Fayed, the playboy film producer son of Egyptian billionaire Mohammed Fayed, was killed with Diana when their car crashed at high speed in a Paris tunnel while being pursued by a pack of press photographers on motorbikes.

"In spite of the statement by Prince Charles on the freedom of his ex-wife to choose her future husband, a feeling of spurned hatred raged among the royal family and it is likely that orders were given to the British secret services to put an end to this relationship at any price," said the paper.

"Diana's insistence on carrying on this relationship perhaps pushed the (secret) ser-

vices to get rid of her and her friend far from England so as not to attract suspicion," it added.

The paper doubted that the paparazzi pursuing Diana's car were photographers, saying it was impractical to ride a motorbike and take photographs at the same time.

The Al Alam Al Yawm daily also questioned the official version of events with a front page headline: "Who killed Diana and Dodi?"

"Diana and Dodi broke the wall of sound in the past few weeks, annoying many people, and in 20 years perhaps the press will give us answers to the mysterious questions."

"Two answers exist: a clear one, the pursuit of the paparazzi and another one for those who like plots," Al Alam Al Yawm added.

"Diana was a star which shone and Dodi was a man who got burnt for getting too near to a shooting star," said the paper.

Dodi, a 41-year-old filmmaker and playboy with a home in Los Angeles, was little known in Egypt until pho-

tographs of his passionate embraces with Princess Diana appeared around the world.

But his father Mohammed, owner of Britain's luxury department store Harrods and the Ritz in Paris, has long had a stormy relationship with the British establishment — fuelling the Egyptian conspiracy theories.

The main Egyptian news agency MENA also suggested Sunday that foul play was responsible for the death of the glamorous couple and their driver.

"The scenario of the events and racist (verbal) attacks which preceded the accident suggest that it could have been a plot," it said.

Even the Al Ahram government daily, which usually shies away from sensationalism, quoted eyewitnesses to the crash saying they believed it was a "premeditated accident."

The Al Akhbar daily said the couple's death hailed the end of the "myth of a 20th century Cinderella."

"Emad (Dodi) Fayed lived like a prince and died with a princess," it added.

## Dodi, well covered by British media while alive, is now buried and ignored

LONDON (AFP) — Diana's companion Dodi Fayed had grabbed the headlines of the British tabloids since his romance with Diana began, but his tragic death alongside the princess barely got a passing mention Monday.

The Egyptian-born businessman, in line with Muslim tradition, was buried within hours of his death in a quiet family ceremony in London on Sunday while the British press concentrated on the arrangements for Diana's funeral next weekend.

Al-Fayed, the son of Harrods' owner Mohammed Fayed, was buried at the Brooklands cemetery near Guildford, southwest of London, less than 24 hours after the high-speed car crash in Paris that also killed the driver and seriously injured a bodyguard.

The aunt of Imad "Dodi" Fayed said Monday her brother Mohammed Fayed wanted Dodi buried in Britain so that he could often visit his eldest son's grave.

"We would have preferred that Dodi be buried in his home town, Alexandria, but my brother said he wanted his favourite son to remain near by so he could visit his grave as often as possible," Suad Fayed told Agence France Presse (AFP).

Several tabloids, which printed pictures of Diana and Dodi together, mentioned in passing that the princess seemed to have found happiness with the 41-year-old mil-

lionaire.

The Daily Mirror in a short article pointed out that Fayed's prophecy of never having a girlfriend after Diana had proved tragically true.

The Daily Mail published a photo of Fayed in polo attire with a caption that read: "His team beat Prince Charles."

But although Dodi, who like his father was repeatedly denied British citizenship for unexplained reasons despite his family's business empire in Britain was not embraced by the British establishment, he was accepted by many, as attested by the number of people and tourists who paid tribute to him in messages scrawled on a book of condolences at Harrods' department store. One message read: "To a man who brought happiness to Diana." Fayed, who paraded his romantic conquests on yachts and in palaces, was the epitome of a playboy. But it was his involvement with the most photographed woman in the world which propelled him to the headlines five weeks ago.

The heir to the Fayed fortune, Dodi already had a string of attachments behind him when his romance with the princess came to the attention of the world's paparazzi.

Newspapers were quick to draw the parallel between Diana's romance with Dodi and that of Jacqueline Kennedy with the Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis.

Real or supposed affairs in

## Dodi buried in London because father wanted him near — aunt

ALEXANDRIA (AFP) — The aunt of Imad "Dodi" Fayed said Monday her brother Mohammed Fayed wanted Dodi buried in Britain so that he could often visit his eldest son's grave.

"We would have preferred that Dodi be buried in his home town, Alexandria, but my brother said he wanted his favourite son to remain near by so he could visit his grave as often as possible," Suad Fayed told Agence France Presse (AFP).

Dodi, Princess Diana and their driver were killed in a high-speed car crash early Sunday in Paris. The bodyguard with them was seriously injured.

The 41-year-old Egyptian-born film maker, in line with Muslim tradition, was buried within hours of his death in a quiet family ceremony Sunday.

Dodi's past included the actress Brooke Shields and Prince Andrew's one-time date Koo Stark, and a host of models and show business personalities, but he was married only once, to model Susan Gregrad in 1987. It lasted only eight months.

Family spokesman Michael

"This tragedy has really flooded me, and I'm going to London tomorrow to be at his side," Ms. Fayed said of her brother Mohammed Fayed, the billionaire owner of the London-based Harrods department store.

Suad also deplored the "defamatory" press campaign against her brother in Britain and other Western countries which portrayed them as social climbers.

Her daughter, Bustan Ibrahim, Dodi's first cousin, said "I don't expect any sympathy after the accident from the foreign media. They act as if they are conducting a vendetta against us."

Mohammed Fayed was the third child of an education ministry inspector. He has two brothers, Salah and Omar, and two sisters, Sayfa and Suad.

At the beginning of the 1950s, the family founded the shipping company Adriatica which uses the deluxe Italian liners Esperia and Ausonia in the Mediterranean, a maritime agent in Alexandria, told AFP.

Imad Al-Fayed, known as Dodi, was born April 15, 1956 to Mohammed Fayed and Samira Khashoggi, sister of Saudi billionaire Adnan Khashoggi. Their marriage lasted only two years.

However, Dodi grew up in luxury in his father's Alexandria home; near the summer palace of King Farouk.

After the Nasserite revolution in September 1962, Adriatica was nationalised. "Mohammed stayed for two years, then he left for Britain," Suad Fayed said.

"Imad stayed with his uncles, aunts and cousins in Alexandria until 1971," she added.

Unlike his father, who has an apartment in Park Lane in London, Dodi seldom came to Britain until this summer.

Fayed was born of a brief marriage between Mohammed Fayed and Samira Khashoggi, the sister of billionaire arms dealer Adnan Khashoggi.

## Condolence messages for Princess Di flood royal Internet site

Combined agency dispatches

AN INTERNET site opened by Buckingham Palace to receive condolences over Princess Diana's death has been flooded with messages of grief Monday, the palace said Monday.

A spokesman said by early afternoon more than 60,500 messages had been received on the site which includes a biography of the 36-year-old princess and press releases about her tragic death.

The site was visited by more than half a million people on Sunday.

The palace site (<http://www.royal.gov.uk>) home-page appears on computer screens with white lettering against a black background with the words: "Diana, Princess of Wales, July 1, 1961 - August 31, 1997."

Written at the bottom of the space reserved for condolences is a message stating: "Thank you for your kind message of condolence for the sad loss of Diana, Princess of Wales."

Another Internet site called "Tears flow across nations" (<http://www.royalnetwork.co.uk/tears.html>) opens with a portrait of the princess dressed in white against a background of grey and blue clouds.

The site was also flooded with hundreds of messages from all over the globe, including Poland, the United Arab Emirates, Panama, Guam and Sri Lanka.

"This is a huge loss for all people in the world but you will never be forgotten," read one message from Greenland.

The website, which was later expanded, carries pages of royal history, illustrated with paintings, photos and previously unseen prints from the royal collection.

A page listing the members of the current royal family did include Diana, divorced last year from her husband Prince Charles. But Sarah, duchess of York, who divorced the queen's second son Andrew, was not on show.

## Algerian authorities place Madani under house arrest

ALGIERS (AP) — Algerian authorities placed the former leader of a banned Islamist group under house arrest Monday, a day after he called for dialogue to end the country's 5 1/2 year insurgency.

The Algerian government order said Abassi Madani must remain in his home and may have contact only with his family members.

Authorities threatened to send him back to prison if he disobeyed.

Mr. Madani, who was freed from jail July 15 after spending six years in prison, had already received one warning to refrain from political activity since his release.

But over the weekend, Mr. Madani in an open letter had urged the United Nations to "open a serious dialogue" to end the violence that has claimed more than 60,000 lives.

Violence continued unabated, and independent sources and media said Monday that militants had killed 33 civilians and security forces killed 15 militants.

Nineteen of the civilians were members of two families, and 13 of the dead were children, including three infants. They were slain over the weekend in a western coastal area known as Miramar, about 150 kilometers south of Algiers.

The 14 other civilians were killed early Saturday by armed men who erected a fake police barricade near Khemis Niliiana, about 100 kilometers outside the North African nation's capital.

Witnesses said the attackers sprayed two packed taxis with gunfire, killing everyone inside.

Algerian government security forces, meanwhile, killed 15 suspected militants in a gun battle in north-central Algeria on Sunday, sources said. It was not immediately known whether any security forces were wounded or killed.

About 1,500 people have been killed in attacks attributed to Islamists since early June, when the government swept Algeria's first multiparty elections with promises to crush the insurgency. In August alone, about 700 people were believed killed.

The insurgency erupted in 1992 after the military-backed government cancelled a parliamentary runoff that the Islamic Salvation Front was expected to win.

The militants want a government based on their strict interpretation of Koranic law, which would require women to cover their heads, ban alcohol and institute compulsory religious education among other things.

## Kibbutzniks turn backs on roots of Zionism for capitalist comfort

DEGANIA (AFP) — After a century as the pre-eminent symbol of Zionism, the Israeli kibbutz has turned its back on the communal model inherited from the movement's pioneers, giving in to the comforts of family life and capitalist endeavours.

As the Zionist movement marked its 100th anniversary last week, Degania, the first Zionist farming commune, moved into a new era — voting to transform its collective dining room into a paying restaurant.

Founded in 1910 on the shores of the Sea of Galilee in northern Israel, Degania was obliged to bow to modern reality — the kibbutz's 350 residents simply would rather eat at home in their modest bungalows than share meals in the communal hall.

"It's the end of a symbol," said Elie Goldsmith, a Labour member of parliament who has lived at Degania for a decade.

"If the kibbutz members can give up collective meals today, tomorrow they'll abandon the other aspects of communal living," he said.

Already the time when "kibbutzniks" collectively chose the names of their children or the small "comrades" shared the rare pairs of leather shoes for an occasional trip to town are buri-

ly a distant memory.

Burdened with heavy debts, the vast majority of the 270 kibbutzim which are home to about 122,000 people in Israel have been forced to shift from their socialist past to a distinctly capitalist present.

"The kibbutzim have begun a process of privatisation and the implications of this are really beginning to appear only today," said Shlomo Getz, director of a research centre about kibbutz developments at Haifa University.

According to Mr. Getz, half of the kibbutzim employ salaried employees to handle tasks once shared by residents, while a third permit members to own their own cars and a fifth are planning to abandon the system under which a commune's earnings are equally distributed to all.

At the same time the kibbutzim are abandoning their agricultural roots and turning to more profitable industrial pursuits.

Degania has totally given up its fields and today lives exclusively from the \$25 million earned each year by Toot Gal, a factory that makes diamond cutting equipment.

"The economic problems of the kibbutzim served as a catalyst for change, but the crisis is really more profound, involving the entire socialist ideology

which originally lay behind the movement," said Shlomo Prital, the secretary, or "mayor," of Kibbutz Maale Ahamisha near Jerusalem.

"Kibbutz" members have become more demanding, more interested in their own needs," he said.

"They no longer see the kibbutz as a commune but as a grouping of individual entities," Mr. Prital said during an interview in the lobby of the 340-room hotel — equipped with state-of-the-art health club — which provides Maale Ahamisha with most of its income.

Mr. Prital says he is one of the kibbutz movement's "conservatives" but has had to make concessions in order to "make Maale Ahamisha attractive" for its 200 members.

"We are letting more and more members work and achieve things outside the kibbutz," he said. Like about 50 other kibbutzim, Maale Ahamisha is planning to build private homes alongside the communal housing so non-members can benefit from the kibbutz "quality of life," Mr. Prital said. "Many kibbutzim are going to evolve into cooperative villages where only education and health services will be handled by the community," predicted Degania's Goldsmith.

## Mideast crisis hits papal hope for Holy Land visit to mark 2000th birthday of Jesus Christ

RAMALLAH (AFP) — Hardline Israeli policies and the ongoing crisis in the peace process are undermining hopes for a visit to the Holy Land by Pope John Paul II to mark the 2000th birthday of Jesus, the Latin patriarch of Jerusalem said Monday.

"If this conflict continues and there is still bloodshed, the circumstances will not be right for a visit by the pope," Patriarch Michel Sabbah said.

Patriarch Sabbah told a press conference that recent Israeli sanctions on the Palestinians which prevented Christian pilgrims from reaching holy sites, notably the birthplace of Christ in Bethlehem, had created serious hardships.

"If this continues or is repeated in the year 2000, there will be a real problem for pilgrims," he said.

Israel sealed off Bethlehem to virtually all tourists for nearly a month following the Jerusalem bombing.

The Israeli government justified the sanctions, which included a ban on most Palestinians entering Israel or Jerusalem for the past month, as a security measure needed to prevent further attacks by militants.

But Patriarch Sabbah lamented the crackdown as a "collective punishment imposed on the Holy Land and the Palestinians."

He also noted that the sanctions had hindered efforts to prepare Bethlehem for cele-

brations to mark the 2000th birthday of Jesus at the city's Church of the Nativity, by tradition located on the site of the manger where Christ was born.

"There is currently no ability on the ground to receive the millions of pilgrims expected for these celebrations," he said.

During a sermon on Sunday Pope expressed his "very deep concern" over the tensions in Bethlehem and "the enormous difficulties faced by the local population and by all the Palestinian territories."

Speaking at his summer residence in Castelgandolfo, Italy, the Pope welcomed Israel's decision last week to lift the siege on Bethlehem, but said he hoped this was only a first step "towards a normalisation which becomes more important every day."

Patriarch Sabbah said it was imperative for Israel to resume peace negotiations with the Palestinian National Authority to tackle the key remaining issues of the peace process, and notably the future status of Jerusalem.

"Without a political solution on the status of the Holy City, the year 2000 celebrations could be disturbed," he said.

"We believe peace is the only solution, and we understand peace to mean full freedom and sovereignty for Palestinians and full peace



Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem Michel Sabbah gestures during a press conference Monday where he said that the Vatican had appealed to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and to Palestinian President Yasser Arafat to revive peace negotiations but received no response (Reuters photo)

and security for Israelis," he said. He criticised the policies of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as a "political vision which lacks logic and does not help achieve the peace we are looking for."

He notably lashed out at Mr. Netanyahu's decision last March to begin construction of a new Jewish settlement on

China sells arms to Iraq

WASHINGTON — Iraq's new program to develop nuclear weapons is a serious threat to the Middle East, the Washington Post said Monday.

The Post said the program is "a direct challenge to the security of the entire region."

The article said that the program is "a direct challenge to the security of the entire region."

The article said that the program is "a direct challenge to the security of the entire region."

Volume 22 Number 10

Crown Prince

role of Russia

Israel rules

ahead of A

paparazzi

probe for

probes for

probes for

probes for

probes for

probes for

probes for

probes for

probes for

probes for

probes for

probes for

probes for

probes for

probes for

probes for

probes for

probes for